



Crittenden Press

Thursday, December 13, 2012

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Community Christmas Behind with hours left

With only hours left before Friday's distribution day, Community Christmas organizers said they still have children who need sponsorship. Angel tags are available at Farmers Bank and at the County Extension Office through noon today (Thursday). Community Christmas organizer Nancy Hunt said sponsor items need to be delivered between 9 a.m., and 4 p.m., today (Thursday) at the National Guard Armory in Marion. Families will pick up items at their appointed time at the armory on Friday. Distribution begins at 9 a.m. Appointment times were arranged when families registered for Community Christmas weeks ago. As of Tuesday, Hunt said monetary donations were down \$1,300 from last year. Cash donations can be taken directly to Farmers Bank. For more information on how to help sponsor a child for Christmas, call the Extension office at 965-5236.

Rainfall well below normal in November

Crittenden County received just 1.12 inches of rainfall in November, more than two inches below normal. The warmest day of the month was Saturday, Nov. 10 when the temperature reached 71 degrees, according to the Kentucky Mesonet weather station near Mattoon. The average daily high was 56 degrees and the average temperature for the whole month was 46. The coldest temperature in November was on the 28th when it dipped to 22 degrees. There was measurable rainfall on eight days with a half-inch of rain on Monday, Nov. 12, which was the wettest day of the month.

Meetings & More

- ✓ Marion City Council meets in regular session at 6 p.m., Monday at city hall.
- ✓ Crittenden County Fiscal Court meets in regular session at 8:30 a.m., Tuesday at the courthouse. A public comment period will also be held regarding the addition of fire department dues on Crittenden County property tax bills. A vote on the ordinance is anticipated at the meeting.
- ✓ Turkey Knob Road remains closed while the bridge is being replaced.

ON THE WEB Press Online Poll

This week's Web poll at The Press Online asked readers to answer the following question: **"Where will you celebrate the New Year?"**

Here is what 315 respondents said:
Home 230 (73%)
With friends in town 29 (9%)
With friends out of town 15 (4%)
No idea yet 41 (13%)

Press office hours

Weekdays 9 a.m., to 5 p.m.
Visit The-Press.com 24-7 for updates
e-mail thepress@the-press.com.

Crittenden County Detention Center inmates sort recyclable items at the convenience center on U.S. 60 east of Marion. The center is open from 8 a.m., until 4 p.m., Monday through Saturday. Call 965-0892 for more information about local recycling.



Newsprint is a renewable resource. Recycling bins are located at the disposal center on U.S. 60 east of Marion.

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Comment sought on Bluff terminal issue

STAFF REPORT

The U.S. Corps of Engineers has not determined whether a barge terminal permit will be issued to Grogan Properties LLC of Arlington, Ky., which seeks to build a loading facility and rock quarry on the Crittenden County shore of the Cumberland River just below Dycusburg.

The permit is on hold for a couple of reasons. For starters, the company seeking the permit removed graves from Bunton Cemetery and reinterred them at Dycusburg Cemetery without including that in its original permit request. Representa-

tives for the proposed Paddy's Bluff Crushed Stone project have maintained that Kentucky statutes were followed when seven graves were removed from the cemetery site. Ancestors of the people buried there have been adamant that there were more graves and are upset about the matter.

The matter has been ongoing for several months. The 19th century graves were removed in April and after an outcry from Bunton family descendants, the Corps of Engineers facilitated a meeting between the company and family. Nothing was

solved at that time and the Corps acknowledged that issues remain regarding the permitting process.

Now, a second issue has arisen. The company has proposed changes to its original application. Grogan Properties has submitted a revised plan that includes changes in how barges would be secured when moored there and the proposed floating area has been moved 200 feet downstream in order to keep it out of the river's bend.

According to the revised permit application, up to five barges could moor at the proposed loading dock.

Two hundred acres is proposed to be part of the quarry and loading facility. It is in the Claylick Creek watershed and the applicant is proposing mitigation of stream and wetland impacts by a series of land management procedures and by paying \$185,850 to the Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources' Wetland and Stream Program.

The Corps of Engineers will issue the permit unless its district engineer determines the project would be contrary to public interest. Federal

See **PERMIT**/page 14

Special Delivery

Hardymon surprised by early arrival of second child at home

BY ALLISON EVANS
PRESS ASST. EDITOR

Every mother expects to have a few people standing around in the delivery room, anxiously awaiting the sound of a newborn's first cries.

But not everyone finds the faces of three toddlers and her best friend staring at her in a bathroom turned delivery room.

Moments of panic gave way to shock and relief when 20-year-old Kristen Hardymon gave birth to her daughter in her Crittenden County home about 9:30 a.m., Nov. 30.

With her boyfriend Dan Wesmolan on the phone with Marion 911 dispatcher Paula Miniard, Hardymon and her friend Chasity Sosh delivered seven-pound Braylyn Marie with three curious toddlers insisting on seeing what was going on in the bathroom.

The 911 emergency center received a phone call from Wesmolan seeking help for a medical emergency. An ambulance was dispatched immediately. Meanwhile, Sosh – herself a mother of three – rushed to another room in the house to retrieve a pediatric bulb syringe, which she used to suction the baby's nose and throat, allowing Braylyn to take her first breaths.

"We just held her until the ambulance got there, then they cut the (umbilical) cord and we went to Crittenden ER," Hardymon explained.

The on-duty ER doctor was Thomas Rousseau, who maintained an obstetrics practice in Marion until Crittenden Hospital closed its labor and delivery department several years ago.

Hardymon began having contractions the night before Braylyn's birth, but they intensified the next



Kristen Hardymon, her son, Daniel, and newborn Braylyn Marie make one happy family.

See **MOM**/page 4

Could city run out of drinking water?



Officials keeping an eye on levels at Lake George

STAFF REPORT

City leaders maintain there is no need for alarm, but they admit more rain is sorely needed or else Marion could be facing a water shortage.

About 2.25 inches of rain fell over the past weekend, which helped matters, but it has not eliminated the potential for short- and long-term availability of raw water.

Almost the same situation arose in late 2010 and early 2011 when Lake George – the city's primary source of raw water – was several feet below normal pool. Within a two-week period, however, seven inches of rain refilled the lake. By early March of 2011, water was running over the

lake's spillway and a potential catastrophe was averted.

Now, two years later, there are similar concerns. The city issued a voluntary conserve water notice a few weeks ago and it has been buying drinking water for about four months from Crittenden-Livingston Water District to supplement its own system.

Lake George is about 27 feet deep near its levee when full. Right now, it has just over 17 feet of water left in the deepest parts, or about half its normal volume. As the lake drops, its surface area dwindles creating an exponential decrease in volume. The city can't pull water from the lowest levels of the lake so there's concern about how far to take it down before increasing the amount of water Marion buys from Crittenden-Livingston Water District. Right now, the lake intake at Lake George is idle and the city is pulling water from Old City Lake.

Last weekend's rain caused some minor issues with that reservoir because now the lake is very muddy, making the water more costly to treat.

City Administrator Mark Bryant says there is indeed a potential problem brewing and contingency plans are being developed.

Department of Public Health officials have been meeting with local groups to further develop short-term plans in case the drought continues. Bryant says some weather experts think western Kentucky may be close to breaking its drought pattern.

Crittenden County is about 16 inches below normal rainfall for 2012.

Bryant said long-term plans are in the works, too. The city is still pulling water from the former Lucile Mine near the city maintenance

See **WATER**/page 11



MONTHLY RAINFALL TOTALS

Year	2012	2011	2010
January	2.66	1.56	2.75
February	1.37	5.99	1.28
March	2.19	4.89	3.77
April	0.47	13.85	2.66
May	4.95	7.12	6.35
June	0.32	6.37	2.43
July	0.81	3.89	1.21
August	6.50	3.75	4.51
September	6.00	7.21	1.87
October	4.20	2.19	1.37
November	1.12	9.04	5.45
December	*2.42	6.87	1.43
Year Totals	*33.01	72.74	35.05

Crittenden County's annual average rainfall is 49 inches

(*Inches to date)

The Crittenden Press
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Thanks for showing thankfulness this season

No one loves the Christmas season and all the beautiful lights expressing the fact that Jesus is the Light of the World any more than I do. However, it has always grieved me that so many people over America start all the whatever about Christmas far before Thanksgiving is even here.

The other thing that grieves me more is seeing only pagan expressions of the season instead of the true reason for the season. Reindeer, snowmen and Christmas trees do not glorify Jesus. We celebrate Christmas because of His awful price.

All these things have been slowly slipped into the Christian mind through the years and they have nothing to do with the true meaning of Christmas.

Pagans in power in this

Rev. Lucy Tedrick

Crittenden Press guest columnist

Religious Views



nation – one of them being the atheistic, communistic American Civil Liberties Union – work to take everything about Jesus not only out of our public square but out of our hearts, too. They have so enslaved us so that when a nativity goes up on public property, the pagan symbols have to go up, too.

In America we are supposed to have freedom of speech and religion!

We should work even harder to put up everything that reminds us of Jesus

and His saving grace in every way we can on our private property where we're in charge. Try to influence all hearts to turn to Him in confession, repentance and living His Words which makes life so much more worth living. It can bring happiness and peace that truly does pass all understanding.

A heart-felt thanks to all of you who waited until Thanksgiving was here and appreciated before you put up your lights, etc.

Driving around at Christmas time and seeing all the beautiful things and hard work and expense people go through to make their homes so festive is exhilarating and appreciated.

Those who just put up lights, stars, lighted crosses or the nativity are truly representing what Jesus gave to the world.

Thanks also to those who work so hard to make our courthouse lawn beautiful and remindful of God's wonderful grace and goodness to this nation. Many of our best have given lives, limbs, eyes, minds and many other sacrifices to keep us truly one nation under God, and in God we trust.

A big thanks to our county judge-executive who supports this work and all those who donate their time and expense to make it so. All the judges we've had since this has been done have made me proud for supporting their effort. Also, thanks to those who work to make Marion mindful of God when they put up banners that say Merry Christmas, God Bless America and all the veterans who put up the flags in good weather and bad.

For a nation to remain free and blessed is for all of us to truly live for God. Stand up, speak up and live up to the Christian standard that God puts in His Word.

As we all look forward to all the happiness Christmas brings us, let us pray for our troops who want to be home too. They want to be with family and enjoy Christmas as much as we do. Pray that none of them will die lost, and that God will hurry the day when all can come home.

Let us all remember Satan is driving this country into socialism. The misguided puppets who are demanding and working for it won't tell us the truth. Freedom of religion is destroyed, and even in Russia where people are no longer killed for being a Christian, their minds are so trained and warped, most of

them do not even try to follow Jesus.

Seventy years of cursing Christianity and training all children it is a myth has done its damage. The same thing has and is happening here in America.

Only God knows what our nation will be like come next Christmas. We have people in leadership in Washington who claim to be Christian only to fool us until the next shoe drops. Then how many will even say they are sorry for supporting such evil?

God's justice and wrath does not linger forever.

Have a blessed and safe Christmas.

Rev. Tedrick is a Marion minister. She shares her views weekly in this newspaper. Her opinions are her own, and are not necessarily those of the newspaper.

Following tracks of a corporate circle

Corporations. They struggle to gain our trust. Is it for good reason?

Over the past days, weeks and months, we've written fairly extensively about corporations and their varied affects on this community.

It's been my personal observation that the general public has a hard time believing what it hears from corporate mouthpieces. There are various reasons for this particular phenomena, some of which I fully understand.

I'll set the table, you decide what to eat.

Here's how I remember the manufacturing merry-go-round with regard to Siemens, the German company that bailed out of Marion during a period of even greater corporate greed more than a decade ago (See Tyco CEO Dennis Kozlowski, posterboy of aforementioned greed).

Siemens was manufacturing and adjusting relays for a number of customers, including the rail industry. One of its customers was a

Chris Evans

Crittenden Press editor and publisher

About Town



company called Safetran.

Whether Siemens was a good community member when it was here before is up to you to judge. I will say that many people have fond memories of Potter and Brumfield and leave it at that.

What I do recall is that Siemens' corporate bosses often spoke disparagingly of the skill and training of workers at its plant here. Community leaders walked around on egg shells for years, wondering when the shoe would drop.

Funny how things turn out. Let's follow the tracks.

A few months after Siemens handed off its electro-mechanical division to the aforementioned Kozlowski's Tyco, the Bermuda-based company shut the doors in Marion and moved its manufacturing concerns to other places, such as Mexico. Not Mexico just the other side of Mott City, mind you. Mexico the country – where labor is cheap and the work is a consequence.

Wasn't long before folks with Safetran – remember, it was a customer of Siemens/Tyco – got tired of getting bad workmanship from the corporate giants they were dealing with on at least one particular product.

The folks from Safetran realized pretty quickly the work they were once having done in Marion was more reliable than what they could get elsewhere. So, Safetran contracted with a couple of local men – Dean Ingram and Dale Kemper – to service their product. Wasn't long before a new company was hatched in a Crittenden County garage called D&D Automation. Guess who

was D&D's first customer. Yep, Safetran.

The rest of the story, as Paul Harvey always said, is this: Safetran eventually absorbed D&D. It located its own plant in the former Marion Mining Bolts building and grew from about 20 employees to nearly 240. The name was changed only recently to Invensys, parent company of Safetran.

Aesop could surely find some fable fodder in this circle drawn by corporate maneuvering. Clearly Marion's faithful servants are the braintrust behind this success story. Problem is, the final chapter has yet to be written. While we welcome Siemens back to town, we hope the global company can now appreciate more readily the service it receives here.

Evans is the publisher and editor of The Crittenden Press. He is also author of the book, "South of the Mouth of Sandy," which is available from online bookstores. His column appears periodically.

Attorney General warns of holiday scams

BY JACK CONWAY
KY ATTORNEY GENERAL

Your charitable donation can help clothe a child, put food on the table for a family in need and bring hope to those who have none. As you open your heart and pocketbook this holiday season, make sure that you give wisely.

Much like storms and natural disasters, the season of giving brings out the best and worst in people. Scam artists are ready to unveil their latest schemes designed to prey on the generosity of others.

Kentuckians need to be wary of fraudulent charities and phishing scams during the holidays. Don't be pressured into making a donation-research a charity before making a donation. Beware of unsolicited email requests that appear to come from a legitimate charity; they may actually be phishing scams.

Fraudulent emails can contain viruses or direct consumers to legitimate-looking websites where they are asked to provide personal and financial information to scam artists. Consumers who fall victim to phishing or malware scams risk having their finances compromised, identities stolen and safety jeopardized.

Naughty or Nice?

To make sure your charitable contribution is

reaching those who need it most, use my charitable giving database at ag.ky.gov/civil/consumerprotection. Consumers can find out if a charity is registered with the Office of the Attorney General and what percentage of their charitable donation actually goes to the charity and what percentage goes to a paid solicitor.

Shop Safely Online

Kentucky consumers also need to take precautions when shopping online during the holidays. A record number of consumers are utilizing smart phones, tablets and laptops to shop, which has scam artists developing fraudulent apps, emails and websites to gain access to your personal finances and steal your identity.

To stay safe while shopping online, please follow these tips:

- Only do business with companies you know and trust and that offer secure payment processing. Look for websites that start with https, (the "s" stands for secure).
- To protect yourself against these seasonal phishing scams, verify the communication by calling the company or by logging into your account directly from the business' website.
- Never do business with someone who insists that you wire money.

- Using credit cards while shopping online can offer extra protection.
- Keep personal information private. Don't disclose your address, phone number, Social Security number or bank account information to a stranger.
- Never respond to emails or pop-up ads that ask for your personal or financial information.
- Avoid storing credit card information online.
- When buying a gift card, only buy from reputable sources that you know and trust.

Protecting consumers from scammers, fraudulent charities and unscrupulous businesses is a top priority in the Attorney General's Office. You can help us in this effort by following these simple steps. And if you have been scammed, please report it by calling my Consumer Protection Hotline at 1-888-432-9257 or visiting ag.ky.gov/civil/consumerprotection. If you are a victim of identity theft, there is a toolkit available on our website.

I hope you and your family have a safe and blessed holiday season.

Jack Conway is a second-term Kentucky Attorney General. He is a lawyer by trade and has family roots to nearby Union County.

Letter to the Editor

Special people remembered

To the Editor:

We have lost too many people to cancer, and now within a year, we have lost Helen Lewis, Mary Lou Chippis and Frank Blackburn. All gave many hours to Relay for Life.

Helen and Mary Lou helped with the golf tournament, Christmas greetings, was on Crittenden County Cancer Board, worked in the survivors' tent at Relay and all three helped with Grocers Against Cancer at Conrad's.

Helen was so proud to be the oldest cancer survivor in Crittenden County with 50 plus years as a survivor. She walked in the first survivors' walk in Crittenden, Union, Livingston and Lyon counties. She loved going to rallies in Lex-

ington and to Lobby Day in Frankfort.

Frank spent many hours helping everywhere he could. He had a desire to come to this year's Relay and he did with his family by his side.

Frank was one of a kind. He cannot be replaced and will be missed so very much. One of the most important things we can do in this life is to help others and Frank did that so well.

A few days before he passed, we were laughing and joking and then I thanked him for being such a big help to me and the Road to Recovery program. Through tears, he said, "I was glad to do it."

What a difference it would make in this community if each of us would help someone and then say, "I was glad to do it."

Margaret Gilland
Marion, Ky.

Letters to the Editor Policy

Letters should be submitted by 5 p.m., Friday the week before publication. Submissions must include only the author's name, address, phone number and signature. Phone numbers and precise addresses will not be published. Letters should be written in good taste and in most cases should not exceed 300 words. The Crittenden Press reserves the right to reject or edit letters for clarity, brevity and otherwise at our discretion. Letters may be brought into our office, sent to P.O. Box 191, Marion, Ky., 42064 or emailed to us at thepress@the-press.com. When letters are emailed, a member of The Press staff will contact the author to verify the authenticity of the letter.

CAPITOL CINEMAS

203 W. Main St. • Princeton, KY

Starts Friday, December 14

PG-13

HOBBIT

Fri. 3:45, 7:30 • Sat. 12, 3:45, 7:30
Sun. 2, 6:30 • M&T 6:30 • W&Th 3:15, 7

PG

HOTEL TRANSYLVANIA

Fri. 4, 6:30 • Sat/Sun. 2, 4
Mon. 6:30 • Wed. & Thur. 4

R

FLIGHT

Fri. 8:30 • Sat. 4, 6:45, 9:15
Sun. 4, 6:45 • M&T 6:30 • W&Th 6:45

PG

RISE OF THE GUARDIANS

Fri. 4, 6:30 8:30 • Sat. 2, 6:30, 8:30
Sun. 2, 6:45 • M&T 6:30 • W&Th 4, 6:45

PG-13

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Crittenden Fiscal Court

Crittenden Fiscal Court convenes in regular session at the courthouse at 8:30 a.m., on the third Tuesday of each month

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FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Is the courthouse open on Saturday? Yes. Most offices are open a half-day Saturday except during holiday weekends. The PVA and judge-executive's office, however, are closed on Saturday. When is the solid waste convenience center (trash repository) on U.S. 60 East open? Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Friday from 8 a.m., to 4 p.m., and Wednesday & Saturday 8 a.m., to noon. It is closed only on Sunday. Do I have to have a dog license? Yes. Licenses are available for \$5 through county Animal Control Officer Denise Peek (969-1054) at the animal shelter on U.S. 60 East.

Father and son restore vintage pickup

Rat rods gain popularity among car enthusiasts

BY JASON TRAVIS
PRESS REPORTER

Todd Riley set a goal. He was determined to get his son's rat rod truck running for this year's Christmas parade.

Riley, the owner of Riley Tool and Machine in Marion, said when he and his family attended the Frog Follies classic car show in Evansville, they noticed a row of rat rods stealing the attention away from the more expensive hot rods.

"People were all around these rat rods," Riley said. "They would walk right by a \$70,000 vehicle that looked like it had just come off the showroom floor."

A rat rod is a style of custom car that resembles the early hot rods from the 1940s through the 1960s. Unlike the hot rods, which undergo period-correct restorations, builders of rat rods often leave the rusted exterior but replace the engine and interior.

Riley and his son Paxton decided to build their own rat rod, but they wanted to find an automobile that had some local history.

Last June, Riley found and purchased a 1952 Five Window GMC pickup from Wayne Crider. The truck originally belonged to a relative of Crider who lived in Joy. Crider told Riley he



PHOTOS PROVIDED
Paxton Riley (above) stands in front of the rat rod during its mechanical overhaul. With the truck now running (right) the father and son plan on working on interior details as time allows.

traded two hogs for the truck and had used it for coon hunting.

Riley decided to retrieve the truck by forklift to keep it intact as he transported it to his shop.

"I went out and picked it up with a fork lift, brought it back, unloaded it with a fork truck and we started from there," he said. "It was completely out of commission. We ended up putting a different frame under it from a 1988 Chevy S-10."

Over the next several months they spent time

welding and fabricating parts.

They even did a little fine tuning the night before and morning of the Christmas parade.

"There have been a lot of hours put into this truck. We really kind of built this thing from the ground up. We took an S-10 that didn't have a motor or transmission. All it had was a frame, four wheels and tires. And then we basically just built a vehicle on top of that frame. The motor and transmission came from a man in



Crayne that pulled it out of a Camaro."

They fitted the truck with a 350 Chevy engine and a 400 turbo transmission.

In keeping with the concept of rat rods, they decided not to remove many of the scratches and dents on the body of the truck.

"Our goal with the rat rod is you still have the old look but you want to keep the history the vehicle has had. The dent in the tailgate, it's still in there. I didn't take it out. Some of the little dents and scratches just stay in there. It's the character of the vehicle. That's the neat thing about a rat rod. You're not covering all that history up," he said.

The sign on the side of the truck was made by

painting the inside of vinyl letters with a paint brush to allow for brush strokes.

The edges of the letters were sanded to make them look weathered.

They also went old school with the wheels and tires. They used solid steel wheels with baby moon hubcaps that were popular in the 1950s and 1960s and white wall inserts called portawalls for the tires.

Friends helped out during the restoration and provided a few vintage items.

"Kenneth Davenport had a hood ornament that came off a 1955 Chevy. Those things are really hard to find. He had this for 30 years. He gave it to us and told us we could put it on the truck. Then he gave me

a 1952 Chevy Crittenden County license plate and we put that on there," Riley said. "It's just history and that really interests me. It adds a little bit more character to it."

Riley said the truck will eventually need additional interior work but he doesn't plan on rushing through the remaining restoration process. It's a project he and Paxton will continue to work on together.

"All that stuff can be done when we get time to do it. That's kind of the fun part of it now. If we need to start it up and pull it out of the garage and work on it, we can. It's running. That was our big goal. To have it running by Dec. 1," he said.

Family's Christmas display continues to shine

STAFF REPORT

For over 40 years, a lighted Rudolph the Red Nosed Reindeer that appears to be flying has delighted Marion children.

The Christmas display was constructed by resident William Todd around 1970. Each Christmas it was lovingly placed in a tree in front of the Todd home on North Yandell Street. Following Todd's death in 2000, his wife, Ruth, had her children place it in the tree to continue the holiday tradition.

Following her death in 2011, the lighted Rudolph was left to their son, Keith, and moved to his home.

Keith Todd said the Christmas display was only up for about a week in 2011 due to some electrical issues. The display required some much-needed renova-

tions this year.

Adorned with new lights, Rudolph has found a new place to fly.

This year it hangs in a tree at the intersection of Harmon Drive and Hillcrest in Marion's Greenwood Heights.

Todd believes the red nose on Rudolph is the original bulb that was placed on the display by his father when it was constructed of bent steel rods and lights all those years ago.

"Compared to some of the light displays we see these days, it's really pretty basic," Todd said. "But it has a lot of meaning for our family just knowing that it was carefully handcrafted by my father. I plan to try to more carefully arrange the lights as we have time, but for now, we're just glad to have Rudolph back up and



This Christmas display was constructed by the late William Todd around 1970. This year it hangs in a tree at the intersection of Harmon Drive and Hillcrest in Marion's Greenwood Heights.

flying again."

Todd said when you turn the corner at the entrance

to Greenwood Heights, be on the lookout for a flying reindeer.

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WHO WE ARE



Ron Deckert

Who We Are is a regular feature in The Press where individuals who live and work in the community are spotlighted.

Ron Deckert is a busy man with a big heart. When he isn't working at his weekday job as custodian in Crittenden County Schools, you might find him dancing with Marion's Zumba crew, lending an ear to someone in need or bragging about two beautiful children he sponsors through Children Incorporated.

With a smile on his face, the 65-year-old shares information about prayer chains he has organized, Bibles he has given to strangers and souls he has touched in a counseling ministry through the Billy Graham Crusade.

"On my days off I don't want to sit and watch television," Deckert said. "I would rather be out. I don't have

transportation, so I walk and if I brighten one person's day then I'm happy."

He was raised in South Dakota, has lived in several states and attended high school in Chicago. His first experience with caring for less fortunate children was at age 17 when his boss took in an abandoned baby.

"I believe it was a relative of my boss, but I witnessed that baby being abandoned," he said. "My boss took care of it during the day and he let me off work early to take care of her at night, changing diapers and all."

His love for children has led to an 18-year career in the school system

and support of an international children's program. Deckert also provides financial support to the Oglala Lakota College in South Dakota, which named him an honorary alumnus.

Deckert was drafted into the U.S. Army during Vietnam in 1967. He served in the Americal 23rd Infantry, consisting of an unusual combination of trained jungle fighters from the Army and Marines.

Deckert had several military jobs after returning from Vietnam, including working as a radio technician and in the canvas and web department in supply and support of military units at Fort Lee, Va.

He got out of the military but re-

enlisted at age 37, joining a reserve unit in Michigan as a military policeman.

"I took basic training all over again, and at 37, they said I was the oldest guy they had ever put through basic training," Deckert said.

Many people will recognize Deckert as the custodian who greets students after school or near the conclusion of basketball games when he gets ready for the night shift.

"I'm a people person," he said. "I'd rather help a little because what I do for someone might help turn someone around."

Area News and Information

Teen killed in Graves accident granddaughter to Marion minister

The granddaughter of a Marion minister died in an automobile accident last week in Graves County as she was en route to school.

The wreck at 7:30 a.m., last Thursday morning on Ky. 121 near Mayfield left Graves County High School junior Kim Fortner dead and her 14-year-old sister, Julia, injured.

The accident happened at the intersection of Ky. 121 North and Key Bottom Road not far from the high school.

According to police reports, Kim Fortner, 17, of Mayfield pulled from Key Bottom Road onto Ky. 121 and into the path of a log truck driven by 44-year-old Joe Thompson of Scotts Hill, Tenn.

Kim Fortner was a member of the Graves County volleyball team. Her sister is a freshman at the school. The girls' grandfather, Richard Fortner, is pastor at Marion Church of Christ.

Tax exemption for homestead goes up \$2,000 next year

The maximum Kentucky homestead exemption on real estate owned by qualified persons has been set at \$36,000 for the 2013 and 2014 tax periods. The 2013-14 exemption reflects a \$2,000 increase over the 2011-2012 exemption.

The amount of the homestead exemption is adjusted every two years in accordance with state law to compensate for changes in the purchasing power of the dollar. The exemption provided state and local property tax savings of approximately \$171 million for more than 416,000 elderly or disabled Kentuckians during the 2012 tax year.

To qualify for the homestead exemption, a person must be at least 65 years old during the tax period or must be classified as totally disabled by any public or private retirement system. The property must also be owned, occupied and maintained by the taxpayer as a personal residence on the Jan. 1 assessment date.

Applications for the homestead exemption should be filed in the local Property Valuation Administrator's office in the basement of the Crittenden County Courthouse.

Kentucky AG settles lawsuit over AWP

Attorney General Jack Conway has announced that Kentucky has settled a lawsuit against McKesson Corporation, the largest pharmaceutical wholesaler in the country, for \$9.84 million. This is the latest in a number of so-called Average Wholesale Price (AWP) lawsuits filed by the Office of the Attorney General.

The lawsuit named McKesson, which distributes one-third of the medicines used in North America, and First DataBank, Inc. as defendants. First DataBank is the nation's largest publisher of pharmaceutical pricing data. Kentucky Medicaid relied on average wholesale prices ("AWPs") published by First DataBank to calculate and set Medicaid drug reimbursement rates. The Kentucky Medicaid program is required by federal law to reimburse pharmacies and other Medicaid providers for brand name prescription

drugs based on the price generally and currently paid by the providers for a drug.

The lawsuit alleged that McKesson and First DataBank conspired to inflate the prices First DataBank reported for 1,800 brand name prescription drugs.

"Kentucky paid an additional five percent for scores of brand name drugs, resulting in increased sales for McKesson and millions of dollars in windfall profits for the pharmacies," General Conway said. "I am pleased that we've been able to hold McKesson accountable for its deceptive practices and recover more than \$9.8 million for a vital state program and for Kentucky taxpayers."

Starting in 2001, McKesson knowingly increased the markups for AWP's that it reported to First DataBank from 20 percent to 25 percent, without regard to lower markups suggested by drug manufacturers for such drugs.

McKesson did this knowing the increased markup it was reporting did not reflect the prices it actually charged.

McKesson knew that First DataBank would publish the increased markup and that First DataBank was representing that the numbers reflected actual wholesaler prices. McKesson knew that Kentucky Medicaid and other government health plans would use those artificially inflated First DataBank prices to calculate pharmacy reimbursement.

Since Attorney General Conway took office in January 2008, his Office of Medicaid Fraud and Abuse Control has recovered or been awarded approximately \$270 million for the state and federal Medicaid programs. These cases range from lawsuits and settlements against pharmaceutical companies to cases against individual providers.

The Attorney General's Tip Line for reporting allegations of Medicaid fraud is 1-877-228-7384.

Salem man is charged in gun theft case

A Salem man faces first-degree burglary charges stemming from the theft of three guns from the residence of a family member.

Crittenden County Sheriff's Department has charged Matthew Harris, 21, following an investigation into an October burglary in the Ditney community. Investigators think the suspect had sold two of the guns to an individual and the other to a pawn shop. Deputy Greg Rushing said two long guns and a .22-caliber pistol, the items believed taken in the alleged burglary, have been recovered.



Kentucky State Trooper Cory Hamby, a Marion native, was recently recognized for being the impaired driving enforcement leader for Kentucky State Police Post 1, which is headquartered in Mayfield. Trooper Hamby was recognized for making 67 impaired driving arrests from Oct. 1, 2011 through Sept. 30, 2012. He normally patrols in Graves County. The Kentucky Office of Highway Safety held its annual Governor's Impaired Driving Enforcement Awards ceremony in Louisville last week. Hamby was one of 197 officers honored from 164 law enforcement agencies from across the commonwealth. Trooper Hamby has been employed by Kentucky State Police since 2010 and is a graduate of Crittenden County High School. This is the second year Trooper Hamby has received this award. Pictured with him is Kentucky Office of Highway Safety Director Bill Bell.

Tip leads police to stolen goods

Crittenden County Sheriff's Department has recovered items stolen in two separate cases thanks to an observant motorist.

A passerby who had read an article in The Press recently about missing beehives called police with the tip. The hives he told investigators were on the side of the highway in plain view near Sheridan. When officers went to investigate on Dec. 4 they found some of the beehives allegedly stolen from the Caldwell Springs community a few weeks ago and also located a Bad Boy Buggy ATV allegedly stolen almost a year ago from a hunting farm between Salem and Frances.

Deputy Greg Rushing said the ATV had been stripped of its top and other gear that helped make it less conspicuous to a casual observer. It too was parked near the road in Sheridan in full view. Rushing said the owner of the Bad Boy Buggy, Gordon Barksdale, has been notified. He is a resident of Alabama. The deputy said the ATV had been badly damaged, however.

Seven of the nine hives taken from Roger Thouvenin's farm were recovered as well as the bees.

Rushing said the investigation is continuing, but no arrest had been made as of press time.

Officers are still looking for a white box trailer recently stolen from the Brian Penn residence on Mexico Church Road.

Deputy Rushing said trailers are a prime target of thieves. They're generally easy to latch onto and take and they thieves use them for stealing other stuff later. He encourages everyone to use a trailer lock.

Injury accidents are up in county

Injury accidents are on the rise in Crittenden County, according to data collected by the Crittenden County Sheriff's Department.

This year, there have been two fatal accidents in the county, both were on U.S. 641. One was a couple of weeks ago and the other in July.

In 2012 there have been 47 injury-related automobile wrecks in the county. That's probably a record, Sheriff Wayne Agent said.

The most on record prior to this year was in 2010 when there were 44 injury accidents. Last year there were only 11.

The sheriff's department has investigated 108 crashes this year, that's up from 2011 when it worked 79 accidents, but down from 2010 when there were a record 126.

Agent says speed and inattentive drivers are the biggest cause for the increase in accidents.

Statewide, preliminary statis-

tics indicate that 18 people died in 15 separate crashes on Kentucky's roadways from Monday, Dec. 3 through Sunday, Dec. 9, including four teens in one accident last weekend in Trigg County. The suspected use of alcohol was involved and all four victims were not wearing seat belts.

Through Dec. 9, statistics indicate that 696 people have lost their lives on Kentucky roadways during 2012. That is four more than reported for the time period in 2011. Of the 552 motor vehicle fatalities, 304 victims were not wearing seat belts. Of the 73 motorcycle fatalities, 38 were not wearing a helmet. Eleven of the 13 ATV fatalities were not wearing a

helmet. Fifty pedestrians, one scooter rider and seven bicycle riders have been killed. A total of 127 fatalities have resulted from crashes involving the suspected use of alcohol.

Citizens can contribute to highway safety by reporting erratic drivers to the Kentucky State Police toll-free at 1-800-222-5555 or Marion Police Central Dispatching at 965-3500. Callers will remain anonymous and should give a description of the vehicle, location, direction of travel and license number if possible.

See News Call 965-3191
thepress@the-press.com
Report Crime Tipline
965-3000

MOM

Continued from page 1 morning. She called her friend Sosh, who consulted Hardymon's Paducah physician's office and was advised she should not make the trip to Paducah.

"Chasity called them on the way to my house and they said not to come since I wasn't 39 weeks," Hardymon said. "She got to my house and we were going to go ahead and go to Paducah, but I thought I needed to go to the bathroom before we left.

"The contractions were pretty bad, and I stumbled to the bathroom. My water broke and I said, 'Chasity, there's the baby!'"

Within seconds Sosh was helping deliver the baby.

As the baby crowned, Sosh held its head in her hand and checked to make sure the umbilical cord was not around its neck, then helped deliver the healthy girl.

"When the baby didn't come out crying I guess instinct kicked in, and I took off running to the bedroom

(to get the bulb syringe) and started suctioning her nose and throat and rolled her over, rubbing her back real hard," Sosh explained.

"It's something I would have never thought I would be part of but I will never forget it," Sosh added.

A week after the unexpected home birth, Hardymon couldn't help but laugh at the thought of her two-year-old son Daniel and Sosh's three- and four-year-old children standing in the doorway of the bathroom trying to see what all the fuss was about. Later, Sosh had some explaining to do to satisfy her four-year-old daughter's inquisitiveness.

Hardymon had an epidural when she gave birth to Daniel two years ago, but had decided to attempt a natural birth with baby Braylyn – though this wasn't the manner she expected.

"I did it!" she says.

Braylyn's maternal grandparents are Sondra and Rodney Hardymon of Providence. Paternal grandparents are Danny Wesmolan of Marion and Teresa Mathis of Aurora.

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- Grandview estates, 3 lots, water hook-up, paved road. Ranges from \$8,500 to \$12,000. bt
- Track 3 and 2 lots off Yandell Street, 3.30 +/- acres. \$13,900. ph
- 3.25 acres +/- on Yandell Street. \$15,900. ch

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GRANGRAN'S CLOTHESLINE

A night at the North Pole



At left, kindergartner Jaylea Bivins and teacher Jade Townsend spend time at the North Pole's craft shop while Santa Claus listens very carefully to Klayton Murray's Christmas wish list (above).



Watson-Wesmoland

Johnny and Sherri Watson of Marion announce the upcoming marriage of their daughter, Crystal Ann, to Shaun Allen Wesmoland, son of Joy Wesmoland of Marion and the late Danny Wesmoland.

Watson is the granddaughter of Harold and Rose Glore of Marion and the late George and Willa Bell Watson.

She is a 2003 graduate of Crittenden County High School and a graduate of Murray State University where she received her bachelor of arts in business. She is employed by Codell Construction company as a busi-

ness development manager.

Wesmoland is the grandson of the late Guy and Jewell Hendrix and the late Monroe and Sybil Wesmoland.

He is a 1997 graduate of Crittenden County High School. He is a member of Sugar Grove Cumberland Presbyterian Church and is employed by P&H Farms.

Wedding vows will be exchanged at 2 p.m., Jan. 12 at Sugar Grove Cumberland Presbyterian Church in Marion. Out of town invitations have been sent. All friends and family are welcome.

Students visit the North Pole at CCES

BY JASON TRAVIS
PRESS REPORTER

For one magical night, the familiar hallways of the Crittenden County Elementary School were transformed into a winter wonderland as

kindergarten students and their parents spent A Night at the North Pole.

Kindergarten teacher Jade Townsend organized the event. It included the

participation of many school district teachers and personnel. Townsend said students got an opportunity to visit with Santa Claus and share Christmas wish lists.

They also sung with Mrs. Claus, listened to a Christmas story read by one of Santa's elves and worked craft exercises with their parents.

Take steps to reduce your waste over the holidays

During the winter holiday season, we often see an increase in the amount of trash we generate in our homes. As you prepare to celebrate the holidays, try the simple tips in this article to help cut the amount of trash generated in your home. Use your imagination and try to come up with other ideas, as well.

For gift-giving:

If you are uncertain what to buy for someone, consider a gift certificate. A certificate's size makes it easy to wrap or slip into a card, and it may be less likely to end up in the trash. You might even want to consider a homemade gift

Nancy Hunt Home Notes

UK Cooperative Extension Agent

certificate for baby-sitting, housework, or other services you can offer the recipient.

Homemade gifts and goodies often generate less trash and can be a treasure to receive.

Consider nonmaterial gifts like tickets to a concert, movie, theatre production, or

sporting event, or perhaps a membership to a museum, club, or nonprofit organization.

When wrapping presents:

Wrap a gift inside a gift. A pretty scarf could be used to wrap a matching hat and pair of gloves. A kitchen towel might make good wrapping for kitchen items or utensils. A bath towel could be used to wrap decorator items for a bathroom or a collection of bath products.

Use gift bags instead of wrapping paper. Gift bags are reusable and not as likely to go out with the trash. If you receive gifts in gift bags, be

sure to store them away for future use.

Try decorating plain boxes yourself—or let your children help! Markers, paints, crayons, and stamps all can be used to add color to a simple box, as well as adding a personal touch.

Package and wrap home-baked treats in reusable containers, or even recycled containers that have been decorated to add a personal touch.

Reuse cards you receive to make gift tags and be sure to save any leftover cards from this year to use next year.

Use a small toy or orna-

ment to adorn packages in lieu of a bow or ribbon.

When entertaining:

Avoid the use of disposable tableware as much as possible. Bring out your favorite dishes for special occasions, and invest in a reusable holiday tablecloth to avoid using disposable paper or plastic ones.

Always have containers for separating recyclable items like pop cans and bottles in easy-to-find areas, and encourage your guests to help you recycle.

After the holidays:

Donate items that have been replaced by new holiday

gifts.

Take the time to contact catalog companies if you want to be removed from their mailing lists.

Recycle boxes and wrapping paper through the County Recycling Program, 1901 U. S. 60 East, Marion.

Make a resolution to reduce the amount of waste you generate, reuse any items that you can, recycle as much as you can, and buy recycled products whenever possible.

By making a few simple changes in our holiday routines, most of us can cut the amount of waste we generate between now and New Year's.

Emmaus News

Submitted by Mildred Long

It is good to have my surgery over with and be able to walk and sit without pain. My right hip joint was replaced a month ago at Lourdes by Dr. Petell. Everyone was so nice who had a part in caring for me while in the hospital for two weeks.

Sorry Fay Brown passed away. Also it was three or four days before her husband Bobby had to have bypass surgery. His mother told me he was coming home soon to his daughter's for a few days.

The deer hunters are keeping the roads hot. I hope they get meat for everyone who likes it, there's plenty of them.

Thanks for all of the prayers, cards, calls and food while I was in the hospital and home. One who has had

problems is so thankful for friends and family all around the area.

We pray Bill Millikan is improving. He drove up North to visit his family Election Day and had to go in the hospital to have treatment and blood transfusions. We send sympathy to the families of Donna Millikan and Jack Lanham.

We pray Jim and Catherine Brown will soon be improving in health. Shirley and Peachie Long visited with Fay Hall in New Kuttawa. She has a beautiful home near the lake. Beatrice Patterson of Portage, Ind., Winde Gray of Hopkinsville and Long are three sisters who stay in contact each by phone. They are a blessing. I remember when we didn't have phones to talk on.



Santa visits youth during Lions Club lunch

Cooper Robertson, 2, wanted his mother Jane to stick close while he gave St. Nick his Christmas wish list during the annual Lions Club Lunch with Santa event at Marion Baptist Church's Family Life Center. Cooper is also the son of John Robertson.

News and notes on the people you know from Marion and surrounding communities

Community Spotlight

STUDENT OF THE WEEK

Now that soccer season has ended, junior offensive center, Anna Schnittker fills her schedule with numerous other activities. At age 16, Schnittker's schedule consists of four clubs, two sports and four college-level classes.

As president of the 4-H Geology club, Reporter of the Future Business Leaders of America, member of the speech team and traveler with the Horizons club, Schnittker likes to keep herself

busy.

"My next adventure will be Italy, with Horizons, traveling to other countries and learning about new cultures is a great opportunity," Schnittker said. "I want to thank Mrs. Kim Vince for allowing us to travel so far at such young ages."

Although facing a challenging academic curriculum of advanced placement biology, United States history, English and college level computers, CSC 199, Schnittker maintains a

4.0 grade point average.

"After high school, my dream is to attend the Colorado School of Mines, geology is my passion, and I hope to become a ge-engineer," Schnittker said.

As for now, Schnittker works for the Ben E. Clement Mineral Museum in Marion.

Designer of the obstacle course for Unite to Read and reporter for Action Force 4 News, both held at Crittenden County High School, Schnittker has no plans of slowing down. "I love to stay busy, and put my spin on things." Spring semester will end



Schnittker

with Schnittker running track for the Rockets, specializing in the two-mile race.

Two students qualify for state speech tournament

Crittenden County Middle School speech team members competed at the Hilltopper Junior Speech Tournament at Western Kentucky University Dec. 1.

Jessi Brewer and Katie Wheeler, both eighth graders, were finalists in the tournament and are both pre-qualified for state competition to be held at the University of Kentucky in March. Brewer won fourth place in solo acting and partnered with Wheeler in improvisational duo, a category in which the Crittenden pair placed sixth. Wheeler also performed in the Interpretation of literature category.



Eighth-grade students Jessi Brewer (left) and Katie Wheeler qualified for state competition during a speech tournament at Western Kentucky University.



Students of the month

Crittenden County High School students named October students of the month are (front from left) Randi Brill, Mason Ryan, Dustin Perry, Paige Winternheimer; (second) Austin Sitar, Tabitha Howerton, Sarah Valle, Jayden Willis, Lauren Beavers, Kaitlyn Myers; (third) Adam Watson, Dustin Bosaw, Jacob Tinsley and Dugan Overfield. Not pictured are Tyler Matthews, Jayce Trail, Brayden McK-inney, Micah Holloman, Shanna Henry and Elizabeth Dull.

Poinsettias have become a holiday favorite

STAFF REPORT
Exhibiting the red and green colors of the Christmas season, the poinsettia plant has become a favorite for floral displays during the holidays.
According to a report by University of Kentucky Horticulture Specialist Rick Durham, poinsettias are the most popular potted plant grown in the United States. Annual sales exceed 70 million plants. In Kentucky, some tobacco greenhouse operators have learned to grow poinsettias. Over 60 varieties and 500,000 plants are grown and sold in the state each year.
The poinsettia was named for the first United States ambassador to Mexico, Joel Robert Poinsett. Poinsett was

also an amateur botanist who sent these plants to his Greenville, S.C. home in 1825.
The plants were valued by the Aztecs, who used them for medicinal purposes and as a dye.
While the three to six bloom red poinsettia is the most frequently used there are other colors, sizes and shapes available. Colors range from creamy white, yellow and different shades of pink.
Durham said the colorful plant parts often referred to as flowers are actually modified leaves called bracts. The yellow centers are the flowers. Depending on the variety, some poinsettias have marbled pink and white bracts while others may have

pink flecks on red.
Although it is classified as a non-edible plant material, the poinsettia is not poisonous to people or pets.
Durham said extensive university research and laboratory testing has proven that poinsettias are not poisonous. One scientific study concluded that no toxicity occurred at ingestion levels much higher than those likely to take place in a home. The main information resource for most poison control centers states that a 50-pound child would have to ingest more than 500 poinsettia leaves to surpass an experimental dose.
However some people have skin sensitivity issues to the milky sap when a part of the plant is broken or injured.

Durham said it's a good practice to place poinsettias and other non-edible plants out of reach of children and pets.
To keep plants looking good beyond the holiday season, the following tips are offered:
• Choose a plant with small, tightly clustered yellow buds in the center and crisp, bright, undamaged foliage.
• At home, put the poinsettia in a room with bright, natural light. Ideally, plant foliage should be exposed to direct sunlight one or more hours daily.
• Water the plant when the soil becomes dry; drooping leaves may indicate it needs watering. Be sure to discard excess water in the drip saucer.

Transportation Cabinet encourages winter preparedness

The Kentucky Transportation Cabinet (KYTC) encourages motorists across the state to prepare their vehicles for holiday travel and winter weather.
"Motorist safety is our foremost concern," said Transportation Secretary Mike Hancock. "Taking a few precautions now will help make holiday trips safer, and drivers will be better prepared should a cold weather emergency occur."
According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA), vehicle owners should check the condition of the vehicle's battery, tires and windshield wipers – and replace them if necessary.
NHTSA also suggests adding non-freeze fluid in the washer reservoir and checking the vehicle's antifreeze.
"Basic vehicle maintenance is the first step in making

holiday travel safer," Hancock said. "It's a relatively quick process that may help prevent an unfortunate situation later."
In addition, the American Automobile Association (AAA) recommends carrying the following items during colder weather:
• Ice scraper and brush
• Jumper cables
• Flashlight
• Small shovel
• Sand or cat litter – for added traction

For longer winter road trips, AAA suggests packing some additional items:
• Extra winter clothing
• Blanket or sleeping bag
• First aid kit
• Food and water
For the latest travel and

road condition information in Kentucky, motorists may dial 511 or log onto 511.ky.gov.
Emergency motorist assistance on Kentucky's interstates and parkways is available by calling 877-FOR-KYTC.

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A Special Thank You
The family of Ginny Threlkeld would like to express our appreciation for the flowers, cards, gifts, food and most of all your prayers.
A special thank you to Ted and Donna Perryman, Sue Mills, Patricia Rushing and Hope Kemper for the meal after the service. Thank you to Bro. Jimmy Porter and the staff of Gilbert Funeral Home for all the kind words.
Ginny would be so pleased that the Mary Hall Rud-diman Canine Shelter found Peyton a loving home so soon. A special thank you to Aunt Lois, Uncle Carter, Uncle Mike and Donna. She loved you all very much.
Judy and Buck Hamby
Owen and Barbara Threlkeld
Kelsey Threlkeld
Virginia McDaniel

Happy 5th Birthday
Gracie Ann
on 12/12/12!
Love,
Aunt Sarah, Uncle Todd,
Paxton & Payton

ThePressCALENDAR
Wednesday, Dec. 19
■ The Crittenden County Retired Teachers will have their annual Christmas meeting at noon, Dec. 19 in the conference room at the Crittenden County Library.
Ongoing
■ Flu season is here. Flu vaccine is the best defense against seasonal flu. Everyone six months of age and older should get the vaccine especially individuals with diabetes and other chronic disease. January and beyond is not too late for vaccination at any local Pennyrile District Health Department. For more information about vaccines, Call the Crittenden County Health Department at 965-5215.

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HAPPY BIRTHDAY
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Website could be the new 'Martha'

Pinterest. Just the name alone makes me smile from ear to ear, and my fingers itch to start a new project, all tell-tale signs of an addiction, I'm sure.

Most of us have heard about this website, based on the large number of followers I have, as well as the newsfeed that scrolls across Facebook. Others who haven't heard about it, live under a rock. Seriously.
Pinterest is today what Martha Stewart was pre-stock trading scandal in the early 2000s. It is a mecca where all DIY projects and baked good recipes reside, making those who have never crafted before want to learn to crochet in time for Christmas.

If I haven't lost anyone yet, the easiest way to explain Pinterest is that it's a virtual bulletin board where you can pin favorite recipes, craft projects to do with the littles, or even make a future dream home list. It works two ways - if you're browsing the internet and enjoy reading blogs and want to "pin" an image from that blog, you can, simply with the click of a mouse. The second way is to repin something that others have already pinned.

Pinterest isn't only a food and craft project site, it has pins from users about cleaning, organization, marketing, fashion styles, basically anything you can think of.

Before Pinterest, I would have never thought to use a

Jerritt Brown
Just My Opinion
Press staff writer

fabric softener sheet to wipe my baseboards (to clean and help repel dust and dirt) or find that super simple recipe for chicken cordon bleu. In a way, Pinterest has become my creative outlet.

In the time of Martha Stewart, I used to watch her and think, "I wish I could be half as creative as her." In the time of Pinterest, I now think, "can I pull off that many projects this week?" When the husband sees the hot glue gun out, along with a hammer, and whatever odds and ends I have come across, he immediately knows I've found something to create thanks to that wonderfully, addicting website.

Because of Pinterest, I will warn family and friends that most of their holiday gifts this year will be homemade, probably a little lopsided, but definitely made with love. To others who will run to their computers as soon as they're done reading this column, I warn you - Pinterest is addicting. Once you pin one thing, you become a pinning machine.

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You may have wondered why I chose to not have a funeral, flowers, memorial or graveside service. I do not want blame or responsibility placed on Bea. The decision was fully mine and she has done as I asked.

All my life, I have observed over and again how the old, the sick, the dying were not brought flowers while flowers could be seen and smelled. People who could have called at no expense, or visited for a few minutes, or sent a card, somehow never got around to it. Yet when death came, those same people could dress in their best and go "mourn" over a lifeless body. They found time for the dead, but never found time for the living. They found nice words to say that the departed could no longer hear. Why couldn't those words be said while the departed was living? I feared these things might be true upon my death.

For those few of you who did call, visit (Amish friends), send cards or let me know you were thinking of me and praying for me, God bless you! To the many who could have done those things but never bothered, I refuse to provide an opportunity for you to take part in a social hour to be seen by others at my funeral, all the while pretending you cared something about me. When you read this, I will be out of pain and be where I have longed to be - with my Lord and Savior. It was always my prayer that all those I knew would desire and choose above all else to want to be with the Lord eternally. Those who knew me well, know I always liked to get in the last word, and with this open letter, I have done so again. Remember me with kindness.

Requested by Douglas Bichon

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Tucker is also the author of From Pilot Knob to Main St. published in 2005.

Fond memories of Deanwood recalled through stories

Sometime in ones life there will be something that holds a fascination for you. You don't really know why, but it is something that holds a special place for you and you find your thoughts going back there time and time again. Such was the Dean family and their wonderful home known as Deanwood. The old white two story house on the curve of Ky. 120 about six miles east of Marion has called me back many times just to drive by and look at it and imagine what it was like to have lived there all those many years ago. If I were to count them, I bet I have 25 or more pictures that I have made of that house and grounds, pictures as it sat empty waiting patiently for it's new owners of Carlos Travis and Kathy Grimmet to take possession of it and bring it back to its glory days.

The writings of Thomas Marion Dean, who lived here, also hold a fascination for me, for he wrote of all the places in the Deanwood area that made it so special. He also wrote personal family memories and short stories of the times that he lived in. Here are a few of his writings.

This wonderful old memory of long ago was written into a story by Mr. Thomas Marion Dean. Though times were hard and it had to be, not too comfortable, living without the gas or electric heat and electric lights that we have in our homes today, there were still fun times and many good memories. This happy time happened back in December of 1880.

Imagine if you will, the Deanwood home on a cold winter's night in December 1880 with the Olive Branch Band tuning up and tickling the strings of their instruments around the warmth of their indoor fireplace.

The mantel clock struck 10; the last candle in the old farmhouse was out. The family had retired and all asleep, except two boys who slept upstairs, they were almost asleep. "Listen," said one to the other, "did you hear that?" "Yes, what do you think it was? It sounded like somebody thumping on the old bass fiddle." Through the dim starlit night we could see the 'Band' tuning



up their instruments out at the gate to give us a surprise serenade.

At last all was ready, the 'Band' marched quietly to the front porch and formed a half circle. Frank raised his bow as a signal to play. As it came down across the strings the sweet notes of Life On the Ocean Waves floated over the still night air. Joe followed with his second. Elvah took up the chord on the banjo and Gus lined up with the bass fiddle. They had no lights, no charts, no director, they did not need them any more than the mockingbird does. The music was on their minds and in their souls and somehow got out through their fingertips. I said the music, yes, and the highest class of it, with all the harmonies, melodies, rhythm that natural talent, skill and practice can add to it.

We were so captivated by it we forgot everything else. But downstairs, father, mother and other members of the family dressed hastily, stirred up the log fire, lit the candles, brought the dining room chairs into the living room. We put on our pants and got downstairs just in time to hear our father's voice from the hall, telling the band to come right on in.

In a short time all were seated in a circle around a roaring wood fire. Get out the fiddles boys, that was good and we want more like it. The band took up their instruments and sounded them; they had to be tuned again. To us boys this delay seemed awfully long. We wanted to hear them cut loose and at last they did, for nearly an hour they played such old timers as Arkansas Traveler, Sewanee River, Evalena, Finny Johnson's Waltz, Pop Goes the Weasel, Old McCormick, Lost Boy in the Wilderness, Soldiers Joy, Old Ned, Golden Slippers, Buffalo Gal, Sallie Goodin, Old Liza Jane, Billie in the



Pictured above is Deanwood long ago. Imagine the Dean home on a cold winter's night in 1880 with the Olive Branch Band tuning up the strings of their instruments for a surprise night time serenade.

Low Ground, Fire in the Mountain, Mouth of the Cumberland and others. Then Frank said, guess we better go.

"Wait a minute," said Father Dean. He went out but soon returned with a feed basket of old fashioned Genito apples. "A treat for the music," he said passing them around. Another half hour was spent telling funny stories and eating apples. Then they left, promising to come again.

To people who lived in Crittenden County in the 1870s and 1880s, Frank, Gus, Elvah and Joe needed no introduction, but for the benefit of this generation I'll say Frank Lamb, Gus Stewart, Elvah Stewart and Joe Stewart composed the Olive Branch String Band. They were natural musicians to start with and they did a lot of practice playing for gatherings of all kinds. They often went serenading in the community at night, gathering a crowd as they went from farmhouse to farmhouse.

There were no Gramophones then to record this music, no moving cameras to snap and reproduce these old time farm house serenades on the scene. We didn't have the talkies to tell again the funny jokes and stories told that night, we can't see again this big old farm house, see the big family around the log fire, see

the happy faces as they munched the apples and laughed so loud at the latest and best stories of the times, nor can we ever hear the band again or its equal. But we can look back through the busy years in our memory and think over it all, and enjoy the picture in our minds, if we can't see it on the screen.

Mr. Thomas Marion Dean that wrote this story says that is was based on a visit to the Uncle Matt Dean home, partly from memory, with a little sprinkle of imagination thrown in. He and his brother W. A. 'Sandy' Dean were the two boys in the upstairs bedroom.

The story was written in Jan. 1940. Mr. Marion Dean died Nov. 29, 1944 and is buried at Sugar Grove Cemetery.

For some that haven't heard the name Olive Branch before. Olive Branch was a school located about nine miles east of Marion in a wooded area 200 yards or so off the old Shady Grove Road. About two miles farther east would be the Deanwood community. The school in turn took its name from the Olive Branch

Church that stood nearby. In the 1880s, the members of the Olive Branch Band, would have lived in this area and attended this school. Today all that is left is the Olive Branch Cemetery. The old school and church buildings have long been torn down.

April 24, 1910

We awoke this morning and found that it was snowing like real winter. The trees, which owing to the warm weather in March and the first of April were in almost full foliage, were bending with the weight of the snow. The trees with full-grown leaves were mingled with white and green about half and half. Those not so forward were nearly white.

The woods presented a beautiful sight and one rarely ever seen here. The plowed fields were solid white – the wheat fields solid green, owing their height (about 12 or 14 inches high). A great many fields that were planted in corn looked white and the sickly looking corn showed in rows above the snow.

When the sun was well up the snow began to melt, but it kept snowing right along,

nearly constantly all day, at times as hard as I ever saw it. And had the ground not been too warm I think it would have been at least six inches deep.

February 29, 1920

This is the fifth Sunday in February, the first one since 1880 – the next will be in 1948. This day finds myself – age 48 – wife 42 – and five daughters living at our farm home "Deanwood" Ky. Reva age 22, Rosalie 19, Robbie 16, Minnie 13, Ida Marian 4 years. All at home today except Rosalie who is at Bowling Green College. The ground is white with snow and the day is cold.

We own our home of 127 acres of land, four horses, 11 head of cattle, six hogs, and about 100 chickens, a fair equipment of farm tools, a saw mill and corn crusher and a Ford car. Our home is fairly well provided with comforts of life and we are an unbroken family. I do my own farm work except the help of the girls, and operate the mill personally.

These are the days of "re-construction: and the whole world seems to be in an unsettled" condition, the results of the "World War."Living is high – labor high – prices high on most everything necessary to living in comfort. Farm products have been the first to take a downward trend. Hogs have fallen from \$23.50 per 100 to \$15. Tobacco from \$20 to \$14 – cattle have also slumped. Mules are still from \$200 to \$300 for good ones. Corn is \$1.75 per bu. Hay \$30 per ton. Chickens 28 cents – eggs 40 cents – butter 45 and 50 cents.

How will this look the next fifth Sunday in February? (We have had three fifth Sundays in February since this story was written, 1948, 1976, 2004), but Mr. Dean's fifth Sunday was special because he took the time to write down his own personal events of the day. Wish I had thought to do that for my family.)

Four Kentucky lawmakers vote for 13th Amendment

BY BERRY CRAIG
GUEST COLUMNIST

Kentucky history buffs are abuzz over an all-but-forgotten Owensboro congressman who is featured in Lincoln, the new Steven Spielberg movie.

On Jan. 31, 1865, George H. Yeaman cast a key vote for the 13th Amendment, which outlawed slavery. With his timely help, the Republican-majority House passed the amendment by the necessary two-thirds majority.

The 13th Amendment had won Senate approval in 1864, though Unionist Kentucky Sense. Lazarus W. Powell of Henderson and Garrett Davis of Paris voted against it.

Before Lincoln, Yeaman, played by actor Michael Stuhlbarg, was largely unknown in the Bluegrass State.

Anyway, Yeaman wasn't the only Kentucky congressmen who was for the amendment. Lucian Anderson of Mayfield, William H. Randall of London and Green Clay Smith of Covington also voted "aye."

Kentucky's five other representatives voted "nay": Henry Grider of Bowling Green, Aaron Harding of Greensburg, Robert Mallory of New Castle, Brutus J. Clay of Paris and William Henry Wadsworth of Maysville.

The Kentucky congressmen were elected as Unionists in 1863. By then, relations be-

tween between-border slave state Kentucky and the Lincoln administration had gone from bad to worse.



Craig

Almost every white Kentuckian hated the anti-slavery "Black Republican" president and his Emancipation Proclamation of Jan. 1, 1863, though it didn't apply to their state. While most citizens were pro-Union, they were also pro-slavery.

Fearing Unionist candidates might lose to conservative, anti-Lincoln Democrats, state authorities denied the vote to anybody suspected of disloyalty. (Suspected Unionists were disfranchised in the Confederacy.)

Anderson could never have been elected otherwise. Though occupied by Yankee soldiers, deep western Kentucky remained defiantly Rebel.

Likewise, Yeaman would have had a harder time winning had Southern sympathizers been allowed to vote.

On the other hand, Randall and Smith probably would have been elected, no matter what. Their bailiwicks were staunchly Unionist.

At any rate, the 13th Amendment became part of the constitution in December,

1865, after the requisite three-fourths of the states – Kentucky not among them – ratified it. "The next year, in a senseless act of defiance, the Kentucky House of Representatives refused to ratify the amendment," Lowell H. Harrison and James C. Klotter wrote in A New History of Kentucky.

Neither Anderson nor Yeaman, who joined Randall and Smith in the fledgling Kentucky GOP, returned to Washington.

A Conservative-Democrat defeated Yeaman in 1865. Anderson knew he couldn't win another term, so he chose not to seek re-election. A Conservative-Democrat took his seat, too.

On the other hand, Randall and Smith were re-elected in 1865.

Berry Craig is a professor of history at West Kentucky Community and Technical College in Paducah and is the author of True Tales of Old-Time Kentucky Politics: Bombast, Bourbon and Burgoon, Hidden History of Kentucky in the Civil War, Hidden History of Kentucky Soldiers and Hidden History of Western Kentucky. The books are being sold to raise money for scholarships at WKCTC. They are available by contacting Craig by phone at (270) 534-3270 or by email at berry.craig@kctcs.edu.

placed second and Faye Beard third.

NEWS FROM 1987

■ Eric Wayne Roberts, 13, was among 13,000 youths from more than 100 countries that attended the 16th World Jamboree in Sydney, Australia. A member of Troop 30, Roberts was selected as one of the 2,500 who represented the Boy Scouts of America at the quadrennial event.

NEWS FROM 1962

■ Jessica Grimes, Bernice Robertson, Roger Dale Robertson and J.D. Grimes received special awards at the annual 4-H achievement awards banquet.

■ William E. Runyan won first place and a \$25 savings bond in the 1962 soil conservation essay contest. The contest produced more entries than any other previous year with a total of 277 essays. Donald Spurrier

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STAFF REPORT

"There is nothing like cutting down the nets," she told the largely sports-oriented audience. "And I can tell you that feeling is best at the high school level."



Taylor-Cowels is a longtime friend of Crittenden high school coaches Denis and

Rocket basketball player and CCHS senior Ethan Hill also talked about his walk of faith and how he has grown as an athlete and a Christian. Life In Christ's praise and

worship team performed a couple of inspirational songs and local musical phenoms Aaron Owen and Erin McDonald performed a piece they've written and produced about Owen's profession of faith. The duet's song, which is of the Christian hip-hop genre, has become somewhat viral as a local hit. The two have also gone to Nashville to record their song.


eternal life is not an invention of man, therefore, the means to eternal life cannot be established by the will or the dictates of man. In John 17:3, Jesus Himself describes eternal life as a personal relationship with Him. "And this is life eternal, that they might know thee the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom thou hast sent." (KJV) If eternal life is a personal relationship with God, and if Jesus Christ is the Author of eternal salvation, then it is utterly impossible for man to do anything of his own accord to obtain or merit such a relationship

The Word of God gives Jesus Christ the name or title of "The Author of Eternal Salvation." Now, how about that! So many precious people today won't give Jesus Christ what the Word of God clearly gives Him. You see,

Also, the Word of God gives Jesus Christ the name or title of "The Author and Finisher of our Faith." In Hebrews 12:2, this is brought to our hearts. "Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith; who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God." (KJV) As children of God, we can be assured that very God who provides salvation to "whosoever will," will also complete that which He has begun in us. This truth is given to us in Philippians 1:6, where we read, "Being confident of this very thing, that he which hath begun a good work in you will perform it until the

Thank you so much for spending a few minutes with the Sturgis Baptist Church ministry today. We don't take our time together for granted and hope you've been blessed. Christmas is coming and we hope you're enjoying the holidays. If you're not saved, you can be, if you'll only come to Jesus. Please take care and we'll be back next week, the Lord willing.

"Meet Us At The Manger"
LIVE NATIVITY



DEER CREEK BAPTIST CHURCH
Dec. 16, 17, 18 & 23rd
6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

*On Hwy 297, just five miles from the
intersection of Hwy 60 & Hwy 297.*

Church phone 965-2220 • Pastor Bro. Marty Brown

*A non-perishable food item to pay the tax collector
would be appreciated.*

All food items will be donated to local food pantries.

Worship with us

For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them.
— Matthew 18:20



Pastor Daniel Orten and family invite everyone to come and worship with them at...

Harvest House
Pentecostal Church
1147 St. Rt. 1077, Marion

Sunday morning service | 10 a.m.
Children's church provided
Sunday night | 6 p.m.
Thursday night | 7 p.m.



Open hearts. Open minds. Open doors.
The People of the United Methodist Church
Rev. Wayne Garvey, pastor
Wednesday Night Bible Study 6 p.m.
Sunday School 9:30 a.m. • Worship 10:45 a.m., 6 p.m.
www.the-press.com/MARIONunitedmethodist.html

College Street, Marion, Ky.



Life in Christ Church
A New Testament church
2925 U.S. 641, Marion
Sunday services 9 a.m. and 10:45 a.m. | Wednesday services 7 p.m.
► Chris and Sue McDonald, pastors



Barnett Chapel General Baptist Church
• Sunday school: 9:45 a.m. • Bro. Steve Tinsley, pastor
• Sunday worship: 11 a.m. • Barnett Chapel Road
• Sunday evening: 6 p.m. • Crittenden County, Ky.
• Wednesday night Bible study: 6 p.m.
Barnett Chapel... where everyone is welcome.



Piney Fork Cumberland Presbyterian Church
State Route 506 • Marion, Kentucky
Sunday School 10 a.m. • Worship 11 a.m.
Sunday Night Bible Study 6 p.m.
Pastor Daniel Hopkins
A New Beginning, Going Forward and Looking to the Future



MARION CHURCH OF CHRIST
546 WEST ELM STREET • MARION, KY
965-9450
Bible Study 9:30 a.m. • Sunday Worship 10:30 a.m., 6 p.m.
Wednesday Bible Study 6:30 p.m.
— The End Of Your Search For A Friendly Church —



Frances Presbyterian Church
Bro. Butch Gray • Bro. A.C. Hodge
Wednesday night prayer meeting and youth service - 7PM
Sunday school - 10AM • Worship service - 11AM
Every third Sunday evening service - 5:30PM



Emmanuel Baptist Church
Captured by a vision...
108 Hillcrest Dr., Marion, Ky. • 965-4623
Sunday School 9:30 a.m. • Morning Worship 10:45 a.m. • Sunday Evening 7 p.m.
Wednesday 7 p.m. Adult Bible Study - Children and Youth Activities
www.ebcomarion.org



Sugar Grove Cumberland Presbyterian Church
585 Sugar Grove Church Road • Marion, Ky. • 965-4435
Rev. Terra Sisco • Sunday School 10 a.m. •
Worship 11 a.m., 6 p.m.
Wednesday Bible Study 7 p.m.



Marion General Baptist Church
WEST BELLVILLE STREET • MARION, KY
Sunday School 10 a.m. • Sunday Worship 11 a.m., 6 p.m.
Wednesday Bible Study 7 p.m. • Tony Perryman, Pastor
For rides, call 965-0726 • Find us on Facebook!



FIRST CUMBERLAND PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
224 W. Bellville St. • Marion, Ky.
Bro. Ann Thompson, pastor • Sunday School 9:45 a.m. • Sunday Worship 10:45 a.m. • Sunday Night Worship Service 6 p.m.



Marion Baptist Church
College and Depot, Marion • 965-5232
• Sunday school: 9:30 a.m.
• Sunday worship: 10:45 a.m., 6:30 p.m.
• Wednesday: 6:30 p.m.
• Awana, 5:45 p.m., beginning Oct. 9
Pastor Mike Jones



Crayne Community Church
Pastor Bro. Tommy Hodge
Crayne Cemetery Road
Marion, Kentucky
Wednesday night Bible study, 6 p.m.
Sunday school, 10 a.m. | Sunday worship, 11 a.m.



Pleasant Grove General Baptist Church
State Route 723, 4 miles north of Salem
Sunday School 10 a.m. • Sunday Worship 11 a.m.
Sunday Evening 6 p.m. • Wednesday Bible Study 7 p.m.
Herbert Alexander, Pastor



Caldwell Springs Missionary Baptist Church
Pastor Bill McMan
2212 SR 8555 • MARION, KY
Sunday Bible Study 10 a.m. •
Sunday Worship 11 a.m., 6 p.m.
"We invite you to worship Jesus with us."



Mexico Baptist Church
175 Mexico Road, (270) 965-4059
• Sunday Bible Study 10 a.m. • Sunday Worship Service 11 a.m.
• Sunday Discipleship Training 6 p.m. • Sunday Evening Service 7 p.m. • Wednesday Service 7 p.m.
Pastor Tim Burdon
Minister of Youth Robert Kirby
Minister of Music Mike Crabtree
Visit us at www.mexicobaptist.org



Tofu United Methodist Church
Bro. Selby Coomer, Pastor
We invite you to be our guest
Open hearts. Open minds. Open doors.
The People of The United Methodist Church
Sunday School 10 a.m. • Service 11 a.m. • Wednesday night youth 6:30 p.m.



GENERAL BAPTIST CHURCH
ENON 1660 KY 132 • MARION
SERVICES
Sunday morning 10 a.m., 11 a.m.
Sunday night, 6 p.m.
Wednesday, 6:30 p.m.



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334 Fords Ferry Road • Marion, Kentucky
Sunday School 10 a.m. • Morning Service 11 a.m.
Sunday Evening 6 p.m. • Wednesday Evening 6 p.m.
"Where salvation makes you a member."
Lucy Tedrick, pastor



St. William Catholic Church
Sunday Mass 11 a.m.
Father Gregory Trawick
860 S. Main St.
Marion, Ky.
965-2477



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Unity General Baptist Church
4691 U.S. 641 • Crayne, Ky.
Barry Hix, pastor • 365-5836 or 625-1248
Sunday School 10 a.m. • Sunday Worship 11 a.m.
Sunday Evening 6 p.m. • Wednesday Night Service 6 p.m.



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Sunday and Wednesday evening services, 6:30 p.m.

Obituaries

Croft

Mildred L. Croft, 88, of Lola died Tuesday, Dec. 4, 2012.

She attended Barnett Chapel General Baptist Church.

Surviving are a daughter, Linda Ferrell; two sons, Raymond Croft and his wife Judy, and Roger Croft and his wife Tammy, all of Salem; two sisters, Ophelia Damron of Salem and Betty Kinnis of Marion; eight grandchildren, Debbie Damron of Marion; Patty McGrew of Smithland, Tommy Croft, Sharon Willbanks, Eugena Champion, Chris Smith, Heather Chaney, and Jordan Croft, all of Salem; 12 great-grandchildren, Jantzon Croft, Lane Champion, Trent Champion, Clay Croft, Keira Chaney, Audrey Croft and Bryan Chaney, all of Salem, Becky Crawford of Mayfield, Kyle Damron of Murray, Colt McGrew and Masa McGrew, both of Smithland, and Morgan Smith of Henderson; and two great-great-grandchildren, Makaela and Kelsie Crawford of Mayfield; and special friends, Barbara and John Thatch of Salem.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Tracy Croft; a son-in-law, Sonnie Ferrell, and her parents, Forrest and Gustie Loyd Harris.

Services were Friday in the chapel of Boyd Funeral Directors in Salem with the Rev. Steve Tinsley, Rev. Joe Baker and Rev. Junior Deason officiating.

Burial was at Ditney (New Union) Cemetery.

McKinley

Lula June McKinley, 74, of Marion died Thursday, Dec. 6, 2012 at her son's home following a lengthy illness.

Surviving are two sons, Charles "Chuck" McKinley of Sturgis and Christopher Wayne McKinley of Marion; daughter, Donna Jo Rushing of Marion; one grandchild; and one great-grandchild.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Billy McKinley Sr.; son, Billy McKinley, Jr.; and parents, Charles and Mamie Lathem.

Services were Sunday at Gilbert Funeral Home in Marion. Burial was at Rosebud Cemetery.

Conger

Berna Marie Conger, 80, of Evansville died Friday, Dec. 7, 2012 at Good Samaritan Home.

Surviving are her sons, Terry Conger and wife Karin and David Conger; daughter, Brenda Pelz and husband Kurt; grandchildren, Patrick Pelz and Amy Lentz, Rob and Ryan Zaricki, Chevin and Isaac Conger; and brothers, Glenn Gilbert and Harlan Gilbert.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Roy Conger.

Services were Monday, Dec. 10 at Alexander North Chapel in Evansville. Burial was at Locust Hill Cemetery.

Memorials may be made to the Good Samaritan Home, 601 N. Boeke Rd, Evansville, IN 47711.

Guess

Euell Kenneth Guess, 76, of Fredonia died Wednesday, Nov. 28, 2012. He was a spar and coal miner and a farmer. He was of Baptist faith.

Surviving are his wife of 57 years, Hazel Doom Guess; six children, Kenneth Ray Guess of Salem, Jimmy Guess and his wife Gayle of Marion, Ann Carrigan and her husband Jerry of Paducah, David Guess and Justin Guess of Fredonia and Delana McKinney and her husband Brian of Marion; a sister, Helen Travis of Eddyville; and a brother, Don Guess of Marion; seven grandchildren; seven great-grandchildren; and several nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by three brothers, J.C., Robert Lee and Ricky Guess; and his parents, Euell Elvas and Angie Marie McDonald Guess.

Services were Tuesday, Dec. 11 at Boyd Funeral Directors in Salem with the Rev. John East officiating.

Burial was at Asbridge Cemetery.

Online condolences
may be offered at
gilbertfunerals.com
boydfuneraldirectors.com
myersfuneralhomeonline.com

Myers Funeral Home 965-0110
Gilbert Funeral Home 965-3171
Boyd Funeral Directors 988-3131

Walton

Janice Walton, 65, of Salem died Sunday, Dec. 9, 2012 at her home.

Surviving are a daughter, Suzanne Wilson of Gilbertsville; two sons, Harvey Lee Walton of Salem and William Thomas Walton of Marion; two brothers, Tommy Ricketson of Sullivan and Hank Ricketson of Henderson; a sister, Phyllis Murrell of Morganfield; 11 grandchildren; and 16 great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her husband, William Harvey Walton Jr.; two sisters; a brother; and her parents, William Thomas and Lona Mae Pruitt Ricketson.

Services were Wednesday, Dec. 12, 2012 at Boyd Funeral Directors in Salem with Bro. Barry Dummit officiating.

Burial was at White's Chapel Cemetery.

Horning

Randy K. Horning, 56, of Princeton died Friday, Dec. 7, 2012.

He was a self-employed farmer and a member of Quinn Baptist Church.

Surviving are his mother, Gladys Nadine Sigler Horning of Caldwell County; a sister, Jill Horning of Paducah; and a devoted caregiver, Denise Darnell.

He was preceded in death by his father, Medley Horning.

Services were Monday at Morgan's Funeral Home with Rev. Jeff Boone officiating, assisted by Bro. Gerald Cannon. Burial was at Beech Grove Cemetery.

Memorials may be made to the American Cancer Society, 3140 Parisa Drive, Paducah, KY 42003.

Roudebush

Benetta Mae Roudebush, 81, of Salem died Sunday, Dec. 9, 2012 at Crittenden Hospital.

She was a member of Salem United Methodist Church.

Surviving are her daughter, Debora Roudebush of Salem; a brother, Billy Joe Pierce of Burna; and a niece, Tara Dawn Pierce of Paducah.

She was preceded in death by two brothers, Edward M. and James Bradford Pierce; and her parents, William Marion and Thelma Mae Hardin Pierce.

Services are at 1 p.m., today (Thursday) Dec. 13 at the chapel of Boyd Funeral Directors with Rev. Raymond Deason officiating.

Burial will follow at Pinckneyville Cemetery.

Friends may call from 10 a.m., until the funeral hour today at Boyd Funeral Directors in Salem.

Memorials may be made to American Legion Auxiliary Post 217, c/o Boyd Funeral Directors, P.O. Box 26, Salem, KY 42078.

Jail numbers

Here is a census of the Crittenden County Detention Center on Dec. 11, which denotes type of prisoners being held there:

Type	Male	Female
Federal	3	1
State	68	25
County	14	5
Other	10	0
Gender Total	95	30

Total Population 125

•Last week, 38 jail work-release inmates put in 1,632 hours of community service, saving taxpayers approximately \$11,832 in wages at the current minimum wage of \$7.25 per hour.

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in The Crittenden Press' Holiday Edition published December 20

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The Crittenden Press

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If you are interested in prearranging a funeral or if you experience the loss of a loved one, please feel free to call us at any time about our services.

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GUM ST...2 BR. home. Features: DN room, eat-in kitchen, big front porch & nice back yard w/garage. **SALE PENDING**

MAIN ST...3 BR, 2 BA w/basement & has 2 BR, rental apt gh

MARION RANCH...3 BR, 2 BA ranch with appliances, great deck, area for a garden, carport & detached garage. **SOLD**

SHADY GROVE...Great starter home w/lot's of possibilities, 2 BR, 1 BA home sits on a corner lot in Shady Grove KY. Home has been remodeled downstairs, has upstairs that has room for 2 more BR. Home has hardwood floors.

QUIET COUNTRY SETTING...3 BR, 2.5 BA brick home, features: 2273 SF. LG eat-in kitchen w/appl. Great room, DR, gas fireplace. Screened back deck, above ground pool & deck, 500 gal propane gas tank, crystal clear well water w/optional County water connection. Stocked fishing pond, woods. dg

GREAT STARTER HOME...located on quiet street in Marion. Features: 2 BR, Living room, Dining Room, basement. jr

CORNER LOT LOCATION...2 BR home on corner lot in Marion. New roof, gazebo. gf

LARGE FAMILY...is what this home needs. 4 BR, 2 BA home, central heat & A/C on large lot. Located in town, garden spot. Includes appliances. hh **PRICE REDUCED**

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SLOCUM AREA...3 BR, large kitchen, metal roof, **SOLD**

MAIN ST...3 BR, 2 BA w/basement & has 2 BR, rental apt gh

RENTAL INVESTMENT...2 BR, 1 BA on large lot. Salem. gh

HOME w/GUEST APT...3 BR, 2 BA brick. Liv./Din. Comb w/ fireplace, laundry Rm., Den, kit w/appl, plus 2 BR, quest apt

SALEM RANCH...3 BR, 2 BA brick home in Salem. dl

SMALL TRACTS & FARMS

2 LOTS...located in Marshall Co. jd

CORNER LOT...empty lot ready to build your home. Located on W. Depot in Marion. ks

LOT...located N. Weldon St. Call for more details...bh

LOT...located on Main St. in Marion. jw

LARGE CORNER LOT...located in Marion. gb

2 LOTS...near the golf course on Country Club Dr...df

3.24 ACRE LOT...N. Yandell St. in Marion. bh

28.98 ACRES...located off of Lilly Dale Rd in Crittenden County. Land only with a pond. jt

30 ACRES...of hunting ground. Mostly wooded. ls

61 ACRES...small horse farm just north of Salem. Features 3 BR, 2 BA Cedar sided home, large deck, 3 acre lake, pasture & woods. Also a 42 x 100 shop/stable building. pm

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Ashley Wheeler

SOCCKER

Wheeler plays with best

Ashley Wheeler and the PVS select soccer team finished second at the Clarksville, Tenn., soccer tournament recently. Wheeler is the only girl on a 13-under team with players from Caldwell, Crittenden, Lyon, Hopkins, Trigg, Webster and Marshall counties. Wheeler is the only Crittenden player on the club. She also recently tried out along with almost 400 other girls for a statewide select team. Wheeler made the squad after being ranked among the top 18 players in her division.

BASKETBALL

Book has state stats, etc.

A book chronicling the history of Kentucky high school basketball has been compiled by Jeff Bridgeman. Bridgeman spent several years researching “every team, every school, every year from the beginning of high school basketball in Kentucky through 2012.” He said he made thousands of phone calls to people in every county and combed through records of the Kentucky Association of Basketball Coaches and the Kentucky High School Athletics Association. Kentucky High School Basketball Records & Facts includes boys’ and girls’ teams including team records and coaches beginning in 1906; all postseason scores; Sweet 16 All-Tournament members; All-State; Coach of the Year; Mr. & Miss Basketball; and photos of every state championship team. The book is \$39.95 plus shipping. It can be ordered by calling 1-877-427-2665 or online at www.acclaimpress.com.

CCMS game results

Crittenden County Middle School is wrapping up its basketball seasons this week. The seventh-grade girls lost a heartbreaker to Livingston by one point Saturday in the district tournament. The 5-3 eighth-grade CCMS girls play 5-3 Lyon County tonight (Thursday) in the opening round of their district tournament at Princeton. Crittenden’s eighth-grade boys beat Livingston by six Monday to advance to Tuesday’s championship game against undefeated Lyon County. Lyon won that matchup 47-23. The seventh graders lost their opening-round game last week to Lyon County.

District Summaries
7th Girls - Livingston 23, Crittenden 22
Scoring: Collins 13, Champion 7, Barnes 1, Summers 1.
8th Boys’ Semis - Lyon 47, Crittenden 23
Scoring: Will Tolley 6, Paxton Riley 2, Maeson Myers 9, Shelby Robinson 2, Justin Morris 4.
8th Boys - Crittenden 39, Livingston 33
Scoring: Myers 15, Morris 7, Robinson 6, Tolley 4, Rodgers 4, Stephens 3.
7th Boys - Lyon 47, Crittenden 14
Scoring: Landon Brooks 6, Logan Belt 5, Clay Croft 2, Cody Belt 1.

CHEERLEADING

CCHS competition

Crittenden County High School’s cheerleading squad will participate Saturday morning in regional competition at Marshall County. The team will be competing in the same division as Livingston and Caldwell counties. The winner will advance to the state competition in January.

OUTDOORS

Hunting seasons

Groundhog	Year Round
Coyote	Year Round
Raccoon Hunting	Oct. 1 - Feb. 28
Dove	Dec. 29 - Jan. 4
American Woodcock	Nov. 1 - Dec. 15
Sandhill Crane	Dec. 15 - Jan. 13
Archery Deer	Sept. 1 - Jan. 21
Archery Turkey	Sept. 1 - Jan. 21
Raccoon Trapping	Nov. 12 - Feb. 28
Quail and Rabbit	Nov. 12 - Feb. 10
Crossbow Deer	Nov. 10 - Dec. 31
Squirrel	Nov. 10 - Dec. 31
Canada Goose	Nov. 12 - Feb. 28
Pennyrile Goose	Nov. 22 - Jan. 31
Pennyrile Goose	Nov. 22 - Jan. 31

Fifth plan

Crittenden needs league win over winless Cards

STAFF REPORT
Crittenden County goes to Livingston Central Friday with its last chance to get a victory in the first half of the Rockets’ Fifth District schedule.

Lyon County came to Marion last Friday and beat the Rockets 78-63 in a game where Crittenden senior center Devin Clark scored 22 points and grabbed a dozen rebounds. Despite that stellar showing, Lyon County’s guards stole the show as their speed and shooting outpaced Crittenden’s inside offense.

“We definitely scored enough to win,” Rocket coach Denis Hodge said. “In the second half Devin Clark got enough touches inside. Our downfall was our defense, which is usually our strength. We simply couldn’t stop Jericho Wilkerson or Jordan Gary.”

The sophomore backcourt tandem combined for 49 points in handing Crittenden its second league loss in as many games.

What Crittenden has seen so far are two teams with excellent perimeter play. Both Trigg and Lyon counties are strong at the guard positions. Livingston has a good guard in Canaan Wring. However, he will not bring to bear the



Lyon’s Jordan Gary keeps pressure on Crittenden guard Aaron Owen during last week’s district matchup at Rocket Arena. Lyon’s guard play was a key factor in the game.

quickness at the point which has given Crittenden equal problems offensively and defensively.

Livingston has a thin roster after losing nearly everything after winning back to back district titles. Guard Austin Woodward is the team’s best shooter. He can pop the three and Hodge says it will be important to manage the Rocket defense to keep Livingston from getting into a rhythm in the half court.

“We have got to use our size and physicality inside,” Hodge said.

With Clark playing very well and Bobby Knox and Stephon Cozart adding girth in the paint, Crittenden will certainly try to exploit its size advantage against the winless Cardinals.

Crittenden lost its game Saturday in the Madisonville Messenger Tip-

off Classic, falling 48-34 to Webster County. The Rockets struggled offensively against the zone. Aaron Owen and Devin Clark had more than two-thirds of their team’s points, combining for 24.

Lyon County 78, Crittenden 63

Lyon County	17	20	21	20
Crittenden County	15	14	20	14

LYON – Ray, Scott 8, Rooyarrers, Martin 5, Spencer 2, White 2, Wilkerson 26, Gary 23, Burris, Cannon, Polston 12. Field Goals 26-49. 3-pointers 4-11 (Wilkerson 3, Martin 1). Free Throws 22-30. Fouls 21. Rebounds 27 (Spencer 4).
CRITTENDEN – Owen 12, Young, Dickerson 1, Hill 6, Hicks 2, Gilbert 5, Champion, Tinsley, Knox 5, Frazer, Clark 22, Cozart 10. Field Goals 25-59.

3-pointers 1-8 (Gilbert). Free Throws 12-26. Fouls 22. Rebounds 44 (Clark 12).

Webster County 48, Crittenden 34

Crittenden County	9	5	11	9
Webster County	16	9	15	8

CRITTENDEN – Owen 10, Young 2, Dickerson, Hill 1, Hicks, Gilbert 8, Champion, Tinsley, Knox 1, Frazer, D.Watson, Clark 12, Cozart. Field Goals 12-32. 3-pointers 5-16 (Owen 3, Gilbert 2). Free Throws 5-13. Fouls 16. Rebounds 28 (Clark 9).
WEBSTER – Shoulders, Newton, Roland 7, Hayes 3, McMain 5, Bowell 4, Prow 24, Melton 2, Garrett 2, Brumfield, Fritz 1. Field Goals 17-42. 3-pointers 6-16 (Roland, Hayes, McMain, Prow 2). Free Throws 8-10. Fouls 17. Rebounds 25 (Fritz 4, Bowell 4).

Hodge is hardly hopeless in quest

STAFF REPORT
Inches from overtime, Lady Rocket coach Shannon Hodge found yards of hope in Friday’s Fifth District measuring stick. Crittenden lost 43-40 at home to Lyon County Friday, but the sheer competitiveness of her team was encouraging for Hodge.

“We’re the team in the district that’s going to get better. I’ve been doing this for a long time so I’ve learned not to say things unless I really believe it,” Hodge said. “It’s going to get better.”

Chelsea Oliver’s 30 footer at the buzzer bounced off the back of the rim. A tad less on it and Crittenden would have taken Lyon to overtime. It was, in a sense, a moral victory for the upstart Lady Rockets, from whom few expected much this season.

“We’re still searching for ourselves,” Hodge said. “We’re searching for our offense and we’re seeing what roles we fit into.”

Crittenden has already beaten Trigg County on the road and the girls will get a shot at Livingston this week in Smithland. Playing Lyon to a near draw was an important move for Hodge’s young team, which included three eighth graders playing in last week’s district showdown – one, Cassidy Moss, was a starter.

It’s important to note Lyon is now without its star player, Jill P’Poole, who suffered a season-ending knee injury a couple of weeks ago. P’Poole’s younger sister, Melanie, has stepped in at Lyon, though, and she scored all seven of her points during a third-quarter stretch when the Lady Lyons pulled out to an 11-point lead.

Crittenden struggled from the field, but was keen at the line, making seven of nine foul shots in the fourth period alone. That helped get the Lady Rockets back in the game late. A couple of Lyon turnovers down the stretch and a three-pointer by Kaitlyn Binkley drew the girls within three with 16 seconds to play. Lyon could have nailed the door shut, but a missed bonus opportunity at the line gave Crittenden’s Oliver a chance for a desperation shot at the end.

What was even more noteworthy from the Lyon game was that Crittenden played without senior Davana Head, junior Ruth Gobin and sophomore Khyla Moss. All were dealing with illness and injury and should be back soon.

Hodge ran out of timeouts late in the game and was proud of the way her girls maintained composure in the tight, closing seconds.

“I told the girls that we played great for three quarters and six minutes,” Hodge said.

Other than a stretch during the middle part of the game when Crittenden fell behind by 15, the Lady Rockets were in the mix. Similarly, Crittenden played Caldwell even for three quarters earlier last week.

The Lady Rockets played defending Second Region champion Hopkinsville close for a half Tuesday before fading late. The Lady Tigers’ quickness eventually took its toll. Hopkinsville returns four of its top seven players from last year’s state quarterfinal team.

Lyon County 43, Crittenden County 40				
Lyon County	8	19	33	43
Crittenden County	7	13	24	40

LYON – Somers 7, Freeman 12, Murphey 2, P’Poole 7, Blackburn 6, Williams, White 6, Waddlington, York 3, Hollowell. Field Goals 17-39. 3-pointers 1-3 (Freeman). Free Throws 6-10. Fouls 18.
CRITTENDEN – McDowell 10, Binkley 12, C.Moss 2, Oliver 12, Collins 2, Riley, Evans, Nesbitt 2. Field Goals 9-18. 3-Pointers 2-6 (Binkley, McDowell). Free Throws 16-26. Fouls 14.

Hopkinsville 68, Crittenden County 33				
Hopkinsville	16	32	59	68
Crittenden Co.	8	19	23	33

HOPKINSVILLE – Cabiness 5, Ja.Majors 11, J.L.Majors 9, Cook 14, Duval 3, Earthman 11, Grubbs 10, Jordan 2, Horbuckle 3. Field Goals 29. 3-pointers 1 (Earthman). Free Throws 9-17. Fouls 15.
CRITTENDEN – McDowell 2, Binkley 2, Oliver 19, Collins, Gobin, C.Moss 8, Riley 2, Evans, Nesbitt, Pierce. Field Goals 12. 3-Pointers 1 (Oliver). Free Throws 8-10. Fouls 11.



Crittenden’s Kaitlyn Binkley (top photograph) provides some pesky defense against Lyon County’s Rebecca Somers during Friday’s matchup at Rocket Arena. Meanwhile, teammate Maggie Collins (bottom picture) grabs a rebound and tries to keep the ball away from two determined Lyon County defenders.

Foursome earns FFA Welding Honors



Pictured are (from left) Crittenden County FFA members Jake Tinsley, Tyler Matthews, Jacob Hunt and Dugan Overfield. The foursome competed last month in the Region II CDE Career Development Event at Hopkinsville Community College. Their event was welding. The four placed fifth in arc welding. Matthews also received an individual superior for his weld. Overfield received a superior mark, finishing second in the region in MIG welding.

Wheeler named to committee

This is the last week to certify wheat, rye or other fall seeded crops. Saturday is the final day. We still have a few that have not certified so please call us as soon as possible. This is the



first year it has been required this early. Please make sure to report timely.

We are currently taking applications for the 2011 SURE disaster program, certifying fall seeded small grains such as wheat or rye as well as working through your maps to update them. If you need to address any of these items, please call our office at 988-2187 so we can set up a time that is convenient for you.

We would like to remind producers that the 2012 Census of Agriculture from the National Agricultural Statistic Service (NASS) will be arriving soon. We encourage you to respond to these questionnaires either by mail or via the web at agcensus.usda.gov. I cannot stress how important it is for producers to file accurate data with these surveys. Many programs in our office use this data to establish typical units of measure. Just a few programs that rely on this data are county expected yields for crops, CRP rental rates and maximum average losses. Any time a program requires averages to be established, NASS data are normally the source of reference. As always we are here to assist you if needed.

Ballots were counted at last week's COC meeting. The successful COC member for LAA 3 in Crittenden County is Kevin Wheeler. The successful COC member for LAA 4 in Livingston County is Jessie Kitchens. We thank all of our COC members for their time and willingness to represent their fellow producers. Congratulations to these two re-elected members.

Deadlines and Dates
•Now through Feb. 4 remember to complete your Census of Agriculture.
•Saturday is the final date to certify wheat, rye or any other fall seeded crops.
•Our office will be closed on Christmas Day.
•March 1 is the last day to purchase NAP crops for alfalfa, grass or mixed forages.

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LIVESTOCK REPORT

LIVINGSTON COUNTY - Ledbetter

Tuesday, December 11, 2012

County Livestock Ledbetter Ky.(Cattle Weighed at time of Sale). Receipts: 543 head.

Compared to last week: Feeder steers traded steady to 1.00 higher. Feeder heifers unevenly steady. Supply included 38% heifers and 31% of feeders over 600 lbs. Slaughter cows and bulls 1.00-3.00 lower.

Feeder Steers Medium and Large 1-2

Head	Wt Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price
6	300-400	340	180.00-190.00	182.98
11	400-500	460	150.00-160.00	154.32
8	500-600	544	138.00-147.00	143.40
18	600-700	637	131.00-139.00	135.01
3	700-800	733	130.00	130.00

Feeder Steers Medium and Large 2-3

Head	Wt Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price
6	200-300	262	130.00-150.00	139.84
3	300-400	358	160.00-173.00	168.64
11	400-500	474	130.00-148.00	139.34
11	600-700	656	123.00-130.00	126.10

Feeder Heifers Medium and Large 1-2

Head	Wt Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price
2	200-300	248	152.00-155.00	153.76
14	300-400	369	147.00-155.00	151.06
26	400-500	451	141.00-153.00	144.07
28	500-600	553	128.00-137.00	130.74
15	600-700	620	124.00-132.00	125.99
2	700-800	742	114.00	114.00
1	800-900	870	96.00	96.00

Feeder Heifers Medium and Large 2-3

Head	Wt Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price
11	200-300	232	129.00-159.00	142.76
4	300-400	328	130.00-140.00	137.10
13	400-500	451	115.00-139.00	130.09
3	500-600	596	123.00	123.00
9	600-700	657	120.00-122.00	120.98
1	700-800	720	90.00	90.00

Feeder Heifers Small and Medium 1

Head	Wt Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price
2	500-600	548	99.00-110.00	104.27

Feeder Bulls Medium and Large 1-2

Head	Wt Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price
4	300-400	362	164.00-174.00	169.05
20	400-500	449	150.00-164.00	156.15
29	500-600	549	130.00-143.00	135.96
22	600-700	647	120.00-131.00	125.20
6	700-800	712	115.00-126.00	119.85
2	800-900	830	100.00-105.00	102.58
2	900-1000	935	86.00	86.00

Feeder Bulls Medium and Large 2-3

Head	Wt Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price
3	300-400	381	140.00-154.00	144.77
21	400-500	469	130.00-149.00	144.38
5	500-600	560	121.00-129.00	126.43
7	600-700	661	116.00-119.00	116.71
7	700-800	751	94.00-111.00	103.84
1	800-900	815	94.00	94.00

Feeder Bulls Small and Medium 1

Head	Wt Range	Avg Wt	Price Range	Avg Price
2	300-400	340	123.00-131.00	127.18
1	400-500	435	100.00	100.00
1	500-600	505	110.00	110.00

Slaughter Cows: %Lean Weight Avg-Dress High-Dress Lo-Dress

-Breaker	75-80	1300-1775	65.00-69.00	72.00-73.00	60.00-63.00
-Bonar	80-85	1105-1650	64.00-70.00	72.00	60.00-63.00
-Lean	85-90	1050-1310	56.00-62.00	67.00-68.50	51.00-55.00
-Lite	85-90	800-1025	59.00-63.00		

Slaughter Bulls: %G Weight Avg-Dress High-Dress Lo-Dress

1-2	1475-2020	84.00-90.00	92.00	79.00-83.00
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Stock Cows: Cows 5 to aged and 6 to 8 months bred

840.00-940.00 per head.

Baby Calves: Dairy Breed: 80.00

WATER

Continued from page 1
garage and testing it. Earlier tests revealed poor quality, but Bryant and others think it may have been because the water was stagnate. Pumps are pulling water out, forcing some turnover, which might produce a treatable resource.

"They pumped water out of there in the 1950s and straight into the water tower where it was then distributed all over town," Bryant said. "But that was 20 years before the Clean Water Act. We all know that water probably wasn't ready to drink back then, but the question is whether it's treatable now."

Other long-term alternatives exist such as drilling a well near the water plant, draining and excavating Old City Lake to make it deeper or going to the Ohio River aquifer with a large pipe to collect raw groundwater.

Right now, Old City Lake is providing the raw water being treated at the Marion Water Plant. Treating water from Old City Lake is not cost-effective, especially in summer months, but in cooler weather it's generally okay. Marion is also buying about 100 gallons of water a minute from Crittenden-Livingston Water District. That's about one-third of the city's daily demand.

Ronnie Slayden, superintendent of the two-county water district, says his plant at Pinckneyville on the Cumberland River can produce plenty of water for Marion. Problem is, the line isn't

Farm receipts up despite drought

Preliminary U.S. Department of Agriculture reports indicate Kentucky agricultural cash receipts for January through September totaled \$3.6 billion, 10 percent higher than 2011's record level for the same period. Despite weather impacts on yield and high feed costs, agricultural economists with the University of Kentucky College of Agriculture foresee 2012's cash receipts in the state will total \$5.3 billion.

Will Snell, Kenny Burdine, Cory Walters and Tim Woods, all from UK's Department of Agricultural Economics, along with Kentucky Farm Business Management Program coordinator Jerry Pierce and Jeff Stringer from the UK Department of Forestry presented a 2013 Kentucky farm economic outlook and an overview of 2012 as part of the annual Kentucky Farm Bureau Federation conference in Louisville on Dec. 6.

Official USDA 2012 cash receipts for Kentucky won't be released until summer 2013, but Snell said the UK economists are seeing high returns on corn, cattle and tobacco and improvement in the equine sector. The typical range for net farm income in Kentucky is between \$1 billion and \$1.5 billion.

"Boosted by significant crop insurance payments, net farm income for 2012 will be toward the high end of that range, but well below the \$2.1 billion record high achieved in 2005 following the tobacco buyout," he said.

In the midst of one of the nation's worst droughts, the USDA is projecting U.S. net farm income for 2012 to remain near record levels at \$114 billion, just three percent below the previous record set in 2011.

Snell noted that export value remained near record levels in 2012.

"Just as in 2011, high prices were very effective in offsetting lower volume, a slight appreciation of the U.S. dollar and weak global economic growth," he said.

Despite significant yield losses, corn receipts for 2012 will continue to rival poultry as Kentucky's top agricultural enterprise.

"Responding to higher prices, producers planted additional acres this year, which helped keep production from going lower," Walters said.

Walters said there would be fewer ending stocks, especially for corn and soybeans, approaching the

upcoming planting season, and prices will continue to be strong, providing incentive for growers to produce more.

"A normal or better growing season coupled with increased planted acreage will put heavy downward pressure on prices," he said. "Alternatively, a poor growing season will result in a repeat of 2012 price action."

In the poultry industry, broiler production declined slightly in 2012 after hitting a peak in 2011, but exports hit a record high and accounted for more than 19 percent of production. Higher 2012 prices have partially offset increased feed costs, reducing the impact on overall production levels. The USDA predicts exports will remain at high levels, leaving less than 80 pounds of chicken per person on the domestic market, which is the lowest level in 10 years.



Luke Vinson, 7, harvested this eight-point buck on his family's farm in Livingston County.

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A photograph of a group of people in military uniforms at night, standing behind a display. A large American flag is visible in the background. In the foreground, a banner reads "IWO JIMA FEBRUARY 1945 GOD BLESS AMERICA" and another sign says "GRAND PRIZE".



Scenes from the Salem Christmas parade include (clockwise from top) the parade float grand prize winner from New Union General Baptist Church which recreated the raising of the American flag on Iwo Jima during WWII; grand marshal Eugene Walker; Eli Barnes of Salem examines the candy he collected; (far left) Little Miss Salem Day titleholder Tori Harris and her Aunt Carla Bryan wave as they make their way to the parade; (left) David and Stephanie Goin and Braden and Aaron Locke ride a parade float; (below) Livingston County magistrate Brent Ferrell, his wife Jennifer, daughter Isabella and son Jude, the 101st Airborne Marching Band from Fort Campbell. Winning floats in the church category include first place, New Union General Baptist Church and second place, Cedar Grove United Methodist Church. In the civic category, first place went to Livingston Hospital and second place went to the Masonic Lodge. Hunter's Auto received first place in the business category.



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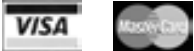
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All phone numbers listed for ads on this page are within the 270 area code unless otherwise noted.

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A public hearing will be held at 8:30 a.m., Tuesday, Dec. 18 at the Crittenden County Fiscal Court meeting to hear comments concerning the addition of fire department dues to Crittenden County property tax bills. Second reading of the ordinance will follow. For more information about the meeting or ordinance, contact the judge-executive's office at 965-5251. (1t-24-c)

Legal Notice

I, Madeline Henderson, Clerk of Crittenden County District Court Marion, Ky., do certify that the following has filed notice of Final Settlement: Nancy Landreth of 1684 SR 1668, Marion, Ky. 42064 Executrix of: William Stallion, deceased. The foregoing settlement is to be heard at the regular session of Crittenden District Court on Jan. 9, 2013. All persons having exceptions to said settlements are to file same at once.

Madeline Henderson, Clerk
Crittenden District Court

Legal Notice

Notice is hereby given that on December 5, 2012 Amy Cardwell of 215 Watson Street, Marion, Ky. 42064 was appointed Executrix with will annexed of Donna Barnes, deceased, whose address was 204 Maxwell Street, Marion, Ky. 42064. All persons having claims against said estate are herby notified to present the same properly proven as required by law to the Executrix with will annexed on or before the 5th day of June 2013 and all claims not so proven and presented by that date shall be forever barred.All persons indebted to the estate of the above-named decedent, will please call and settle said debts immediately.

Madeline Henderson, Clerk
Crittenden District Court

Legal Notice

Notice is hereby given that on November 29, 2012 Nancy Brock of 943 Youth Camp Road, Marion, Ky. 42064 was appointed executrix with will annexed of Carlisle Towery, deceased, whose address was 314 West Carlisle St., Marion, Ky. 42064. Rebecca

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J. Johnson, P.O. Box 415, 217 West Bellville St., Attorney. All persons having claims against the said estate are hereby notified to present the same properly proven as required by law to the executrix with will annexed on or before the 29th day of May, 2013 and all claims not so proven and presented by that date shall be forever barred. All persons indebted to the estate of the above-named decedent, will please call and settle said debts immediately.

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PHOTO BY LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH COMMISSION
Lynn Bechler of Marion has been in Frankfort recently for orientation as a Kentucky legislator. Bechler won election last month and will officially begin his work in January. Bechler is the first Crittenden County resident to represent this entire county in the General Assembly in almost a century.

Warming up to Frankfort

BY DARYL K. TABOR
SPECIAL TO THE PRESS

Just a few weeks from beginning his role as a Kentucky lawmaker, Lynn Bechler is still looking for a home in the Capitol Annex. He is pretty sure he won't be getting the keys to outgoing Rep. Mike Cherry's office when he takes over for the retiring Kentucky House District 4 lawmaker. Not that the outgoing representative of Crittenden, Livingston, Caldwell and Henderson counties in the upper chamber, was himself a freshman representative back in 1985. Bechler said both Ridley and Rep. Cherry – despite Cherry's backing of Bechler's Democratic opponent in the November election, Raymond Giannini of Princeton – have each met and spoken with him multiple times about the transition.

"I remember vividly 27 years ago doing this. It was exciting and interesting," Ridley, of Henderson, recalled. "It was fun."

Bechler said the Democrats have been very gracious.

"Both (Cherry and Ridley) have been a big help," added Bechler, who defeated Giannini with 57 percent of the district-wide vote.

Tackling the issues
After 14 years of continuous representation by Cherry, there are ongoing issues Bechler must confront when passed the baton next month. Of course, one of the primary matters facing Crittenden County is the completion of the new U.S. 641 from Marion to the Interstate 69 corridor. But as a true fiscal conservative, Bechler eyes casting a much wider net.

"In my mind, until we stop spending more than we receive in revenue, we're going to continue down a path of trouble," he said of the general assembly.

Bechler campaigned on getting the commonwealth's financial house in order and improving educational and vocational opportunities for Kentucky's youth, as well doing all he can in the face of federal obstacles to keep coal king in Kentucky for both its employment impact and low cost of generating electricity. He also hopes to help eliminate regulations that discourage industry, like environmental rules on agricultural practices. But of most pressing importance to the families in House District 4 is the economy.

"The big thing is jobs right now," Becher pointed out. "That issue – for all four counties – is the same."

He has also discussed with Crittenden County Judge-Executive Perry Newcom and Crittenden County Superintendent of Schools Dr. Rachel Yarbrough the fiscal burdens a multitude of unfunded mandates handed down from Frankfort have had on their respective county and school district budgets.

"My intention is to do all I can to minimize those things," Bechler said. "I don't pretend to be able to change the course, but you won't see me voting for them."

Making his mark
Indeed, it won't be easy for a freshman legislator to make his mark in a first term. But the certified mechanical engineer and grad-

uate of St. Louis University with a double major that included math has plenty of managerial and business experiences and is prepared for the complex nature of his new job. Though he would not tip his hand as to the first piece of legislation he intends to file, Bechler has studied the issues facing Kentucky, particularly its poor fiscal condition that earned recent recognition by Forbes.com as one of 11 "death spiral states." The article says Kentucky has more people depending on the government than supporting it. Kentucky also has the ominous ranking of the seventh worst-run state by 24/7 Wall St., a Delaware-based financial think tank.

"He's taken time to get acclimated on issues," Ridley said of Bechler. "I applaud him for that. It will take a lot of time and effort to make up for the loss of Mike (Cherry)."

Ridley – who worked hand-in-hand with fellow Democrat Cherry since joining the senate in 2004 – may have some philosophical differences with Bechler from the opposite side of the political aisle, but the senator and representative-elect agreed in separate conversations that they are each on the same page as far as the needs of Crittenden County and the conservative nature of western Kentucky.

"You would be surprised at how close we align," Ridley said.

Besides working with Ridley, whose senatorial district encompasses all of House District 4 except the eastern precincts of McCracken County, Bechler will also be collaborating with Sen. Bob Leeper of Paducah, an Independent who caucuses with the GOP majority in the senate.

"It will take dedicated time to be in Frankfort and learn who his legislative counterparts are," Ridley said of Bechler. "It's daunting."

"There is a learning curve in anything, from my perspective, whether being a legislator or an engineer," Bechler said. "If you're honest about it as a new member, you need the assistance of more senior leaders."

One of those is House Minority Floor Leader Jeff Hoover, who is expected to retain the position in the leadership elections in the first four days of next year's session. Hoover knows Bechler well, having hit the campaign trail with him. Hoover has already begun rallying the chamber's GOP membership, which returns to Frankfort with more strength in numbers than in the recent past.

"We have to be listened to more," concluded Bechler of his minority party.

Just as he wouldn't offer a clue to the first piece of legislation he plans to introduce, neither would Bechler express a preference as to committee appointments.

"All the committees they have are important," he said. "I don't won't to be pigeon-holed (by saying which committees I'm interested in.)"

With his background and interests, however, Bechler may be a prime candidate for Labor and Industry, Agriculture and Small Business or Labor and Industry com-

mittees, among others.

Not for the money

Though he doesn't consider himself among the great orators whose voices like Henry Clay's once filled the halls of the capitol, Bechler's not afraid to stand before his fellow legislators and speak his mind on issues that affect Kentuckians.

"I'm doing it for love of fellow man, not pay," Bechler explained. "People are putting a lot of faith in their elected officials."

Members of both chambers generally receive \$188.22 each day they are in Frankfort and another \$135.30 for daily for expenses, according to Rob Weber, LRC public information officer. House members get \$250 each session for stationary costs – half that of senators – to stay in touch with constituents. When they are not in session, lawmakers get monthly payments of \$1,788.51.

Bechler believes in term limits, but at 66 hasn't limited himself to any specific number of terms.

"My suspicion is the voters will determine that," he said. "It's not a career for me. I'll certainly not be up there forever."

He understand why people like Cherry may get worn down over the years, after virtually every appearance – whether public or personal – turns to a discussion of politics.

"It's already started," he laughed. "The first two or three days after the election, I thought the phone was an appendage of my body. I expected it."

Also, for representatives with two-year terms, the campaigning seemingly never ends.

Ridley, who is also in the minority party in the upper chamber of the statehouse, said there is no magic recipe for individual success in politics, but if he could give one piece of advice to the representative-elect, it would be this: "Listen to your constituents, understand the issues and vote your conscience."



At a public reception held at the Crittenden County Courthouse on Dec. 4 in his honor, retiring Democratic State Rep. Mike Cherry and his wife, Princeton Mayor Gale Cherry, cut the first piece of cake. Cherry has served as state representative since 1999 for Caldwell, Crittenden and Livingston counties and a part of McCracken County. He's served in that seat longer than anyone else.

County's goodbye to Rep. Cherry includes reception

BY JASON TRAVIS
PRESS REPORTER

A public reception was held at the Crittenden County Courthouse on Dec. 4 in honor of retiring Democratic State Rep. Mike Cherry from Princeton. Cherry announced last year he was not seeking another term in office.

He has represented the House 4th District in Frankfort since 1999, serving Caldwell, Crittenden and Livingston counties and part of McCracken County. In November, Republican Lynn Bechler was elected to serve the House District.

Cherry, in an emotional speech, told those gathered at the reception he was honored to have served them and the citizens of Crittenden County.

"Crittenden County has been a strong supporter and I enjoy coming here," he said. "I feel like it's a second home to me. You've been good friends and it has been an honor and privilege to represent you."

As he looks back on his term, Cherry said he is

pleased with the U.S. 641 project and the impact it will have on Crittenden County.

"Of course 641 is a stellar issue and the money the state's going to put forward is for Crittenden County. It's not for anything but Crittenden County and I consider that – in terms of cost – the major project of my term," he said.

Cherry also reflected on his recent recommendations in regard to public pension programs.

"The first Pension Reform Bill in 2008, as it turns out that wasn't enough, but it was a start. I'm trying to get a handle around this terrible unfunded liability we've got in the pension programs. In just the last week the task force that I co-chair made its report on what our recommendations are for the state's public pension programs," he said.

From a personal standpoint, Cherry said he was very proud to see the Anti-Bullying Bill passed.

"It took me six years to get that passed," he said. "That was very important."

PERMIT

Continued from page 1
officials have expressed some disgust at the company's behavior in removing the cemetery without prior approval from the Corps of Engineers, state heritage groups and the National Historic Preservation Act.

The Corps issued a public notice No. 11-31A dated Nov. 29 which states, "The decision whether to issue a permit will be based on an evaluation of the probable

impacts including cumulative impacts of the facility on the public interest. That decision will reflect the national concern for both protection and utilization of important resources."

Deadline for the public to file a written response to the application is Dec. 29. Letters should be addressed to the U.S. Corps of Engineers, Regulatory Branch, Att. Lisa Morris, 3701 Bell Road, Nashville, TN 37214. Her phone number is (615) 369-7504.

Support the Mary Hall Ruddiman Canine Shelter this holiday season by purchasing an item or two or three for their dogs and cats. It is a no-kill animal shelter serving Crittenden, Livingston and Lyon counties in western Kentucky.

Want to participate? Remove a tag from the tree at Marion Feed Mill and **Receive 10-20% Off** items purchased for the shelter.

Fill in your name and address information. Tell us what you want to purchase. We will deliver the items to the shelter. Doesn't that sound easy?

Listed are some suggested items, but feel free to ask about others.

- Dog & Cat Food
- Pet Leashes
- Pet Toys
- Dog Beds
- Flea & Tick Items
- Wormer
- Gift Certificates
- Pet Collars
- Pet Brushes
- Dog Treats
- Pet Bowls
- Pet Shampoo
- And More

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